

THE TIMES

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MONDAY JULY 22 1996



THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT
THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

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 ■ Golf: major triumph for Lehman as he wins Open PAGES 25-27

FREE - TAKE A CHILD TO THE ZOO

Details and token PAGE 42

TODAY'S BRIGHT YOUNG THINGS
THE CHANGING FACE OF COUNTRY LIFE

The house party lives but bring your own tent PAGES 16-17



Spanish police find fourth bomb

Tourist chiefs fear summer of violence

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT AND TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

TOURIST chiefs are preparing to fly to Spain today for an urgent review of security as fears grew of a sustained campaign of terrorism at some of Europe's most popular resorts.

Last night police discovered a bomb in a hotel in the popular resort of Salou just hours after 24 British tourists were injured — three seriously — in an explosion in a crowded airport lounge at Reus near Tarragona, down the Mediterranean coast from Barcelona. It was the fourth terrorist device either to have exploded or to have been found within 24 hours, provoking fears that Eta, the Basque separatist movement, is mounting a determined bombing campaign aimed at Spain's huge tourism industry.

The bomb at Reus airport exploded on Saturday night when Isabel Montiel Lorenzo, 46, an airport cleaner, disturbed the contents of a dustbin. Doctors fear she may lose both legs.

Three Britons who were standing near by were directly hit and are still in serious condition at the Sant Joan Hospital in Reus.

The bomb exploded minutes after a coded warning used by Eta was received, too late to clear the area.

The worst injured included Thomas Mahony, 10, from Dublin, who has a broken femur among other injuries and severe shock; and Britons Jean Harms, 60, who has shrapnel in her shoulder; and

Karen Kelly, 28, with shrapnel wounds to the head and body. Before the airport blast there were two other explosions on Saturday evening: at the Hotel Princess in Cambria and on the Calle de Zaragoza in Salou. A telephone caller, speaking on behalf of Eta, had earlier warned local newspapers of the attacks, and police were able to evacuate the hotel and to cordon off the road in Salou.

The Spanish authorities immediately stepped up security, both visibly and undercover, but last night 500 tourists, many of them British, had to be evacuated after the fourth device was found in toilets at the Delfin Park Hotel in Salou.

Tour operators will also meet today to decide whether any extra precautions can be taken or more warnings given.

British tourists are already being greeted at airports throughout Spain by stark warnings to be alert for bombs.

Martin Brackenbury, president of the International Federation of Tour Operators, said last night that urgent calls would be made this morning to the Tourism Ministry in Madrid. "If necessary we will then immediately fly to Spain. But the Spanish appreciate more than most the importance of tourism to their country's economy and I am sure that they are already taking extra security precautions. In general security in Spain is good."

The Foreign Office has al-

ready issued advice to travellers to report any suspicious bags or packages to the local police, and gave warning before the explosion that there appeared to be "a resumption of last year's bombing campaign".

More than 4.5 million people will take package holidays in Spain this year, and tour operators are also stepping up their security advice.

As British passengers to mainland Spain board the coaches from the airport to their hotel they are being told by tour guides that they should watch out for unattended packages and cases and report anyone behaving suspiciously at the airport and in the hotel.

At hotels many tour companies are reinforcing the message in individual letters pushed under bedroom doors or in the "welcome" meeting with the tour guide.

Despite the bombs there is little evidence that Britons are ready to cancel their holiday plans. Spain is by far the most popular package-tour destination for British holidaymakers, accounting for about 42 per cent of all holidays booked through travel agents. Of those some 73 per cent head for Majorca, Minorca or the Canary Islands, so far untouched by terrorist attacks.

About a million Britons normally travel to the mainland resorts targeted by Eta.

Major tour operators said

Continued on page 2, col 5

Injured Britons, page 2
 Leading article, page 21

School references lose secrecy

By JOHN O'LEARY
 EDUCATION EDITOR

UNIVERSITIES have been warned that a European Union directive will deprive them of the confidential references on which they rely to pitch their offers of places to

Students. Rules on data protection to be introduced in 1998 will give students the right to see their school's reference. University admissions officers fear that teachers' verdicts will become too anodyne.

School references are exempt from the Data Protection Act because they are stored electronically for less than two months. They are then printed out and have to be computerised again if a file is needed later in the admissions process.

The directive, issued last year, will extend existing rights of access to computerised records to official files held manually.

Tony Higgins, chief executive of the University and College Admissions Service, has told vice-chancellors the directive will have "significant

implications" for schools and higher education. Admissions officers should assume that references will no longer be confidential after the 1997-98 academic year.

The reference is a key element in the applications process, partly because schools' predictions of A-level grades often go wrong. More than half the forecast grades turn out to be over-optimistic.

Demand for higher education places has dropped slightly this year, despite a rise in the number of 18-year-olds. More than 370,000 applicants will be competing for fewer than 300,000 places. About half of the candidates will come with confidential references.

The decision by police to scale down their presence in

Brittany murder hunt scaled down

FROM BILL FROST
 IN PLEINE FOUGÈRES

FRENCH police yesterday scaled down the hunt for the killer of Caroline Dickinson, the 13-year-old British schoolgirl raped and murdered at a youth hostel in Brittany.

Having completed their search of the Auberge de Jeunesse in Pleine Fougeres, detectives left the town indicating that the inquiry "may take some considerable time". Reports that an arrest was imminent were denied.

Christian Couet, the Mayor, said police had told him they were leaving the town to give its people "some peace". He added: "Everybody here wishes that the person responsible for this vile crime is caught as soon as possible. But I fear it will take a while."

Caroline's body was found on Thursday by the four girls with whom she shared a first-floor room. They woke to see her face down. It is believed that she was suffocated before being sexually assaulted.

One of Caroline's friends told police that during the night she heard what sounded like "heels drumming" on the floor but went back to sleep assuming Caroline was having a bad dream.

The decision by police to



Caroline: friend thought that she was dreaming

the town — 26 miles east of St Malo — has concerned residents and holidaymakers.

Keith Charlton, from Rowlands Gill near Newcastle Upon Tyne, who is staying with his wife and children on the outskirts of Pleine Fougeres, said: "We certainly won't be spending much time around here now."

Lionel Moran, owner of the Hotel des Voyager, was furious that police were being withdrawn. "None of us can believe this," he said.

At the weekend a photo of an unshaven man in his late thirties was shown to local people before being withdrawn without explanation.

Friends return, page 3

Cool Lehman wins the Open

The American golfer Tom Lehman kept his cool in the heat of battle yesterday evening to win the 125th Open at Royal Lytham. His two-stroke victory was his first major triumph. Lehman, six strokes clear after his course record 64 on Saturday, refused to yield to the pressure.

Ernie Els and Mark McCumber were runners-up with Nick Faldo, one more behind, in fourth place.

Page 25

Britons held at Olympics

Two Britons have been arrested during a campaign against Olympics ticket touts.

Michael Farrow, 34, from London, and Mark Smith, 28, from Wales, were picked up during a police sweep and told to leave Atlanta.

Olympics: 28-31

Bob Dole says he is fit to run

Bob Dole, the Republican presidential candidate who is 73 today, sought to head off concerns about his age by disclosing records that show him to be in excellent health. If he wins, he would be the oldest man elected for a first term.

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Corruption claim over Major club

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE Conservative Party was under attack last night over a secretive fund-raising club whose members pay between £10,000 and £100,000 a year for the privilege of dining with the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet.

There were demands for Mr Major to make a Commons statement on the Premier Club, which was launched with him as its patron last November. Amid other calls for investigations, there was also a demand for the removal of property tycoon John Beckwith, the club's chairman.

There were demands for Mr Major to make a Commons statement on the Premier Club, which was launched with him as its patron last November. Amid other calls for investigations, there was also a demand for the removal of property tycoon John Beckwith, the club's chairman.

The club's last dinner was on July 1 at the Banqueting House in Whitehall. Among guests reportedly there were Sir Richard Greenbury, the chairman of Marks and Spencer, Sir Stanley Kalms, chairman of Dixons, and David Atterton, chairman of Guiness Mahon.

A spokesperson for Conservative Central Office said: "It's not a secret club but a perfectly legitimate one which raises money for the party." Mr Beckwith, 49, an Old Harrovian, was not available for comment yesterday.

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What got our athletes to the Olympics?
 Part determination and a McDonnell Douglas

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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

ANGELS OF ALBION

In the face of mud, the bravery of the women of the Raj



WEDNESDAY

STYLE

The three must-haves this autumn

PLUS:
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Win three
Texan monitors

THURSDAY

FILMS

Tornado terror - Geoff Brown reviews Twister
PLUS:
The best of books



FRIDAY

POP

Caitlin Moran on modern music and musicians

PLUS:
The Valerie Grove interview

SATURDAY

VILLAGE HALLS

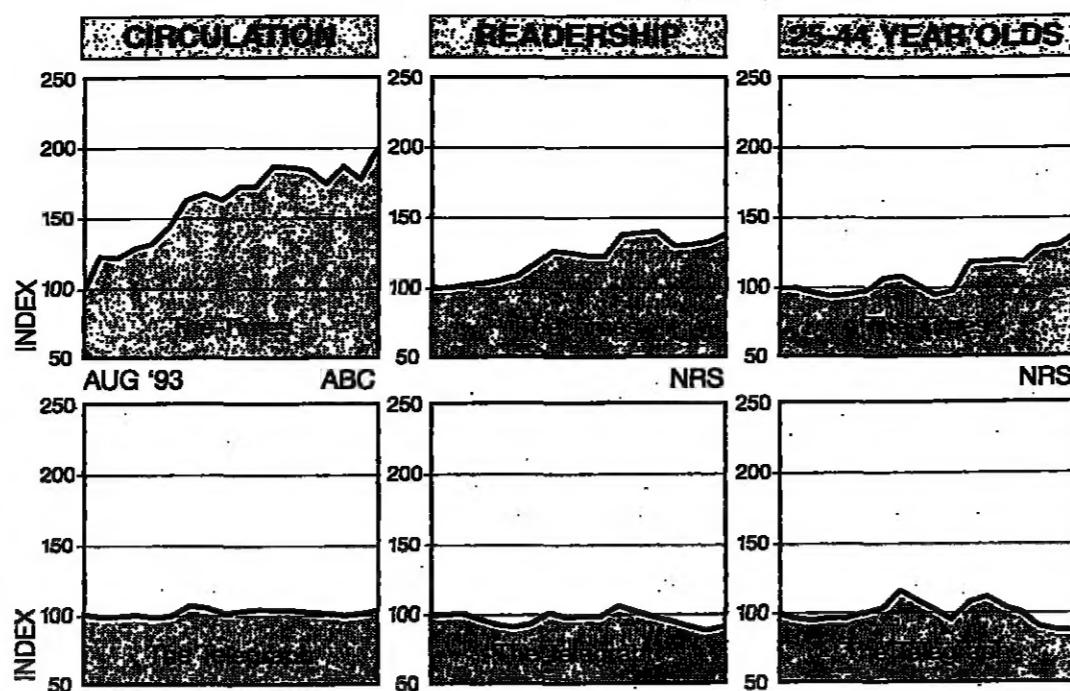
in The Magazine
PLUS:
Weekend, Car 96, Weekend Money, 1015 for young Times readers and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide



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- Today's 17-page Sport section, Times Sport, is the largest of any daily newspaper.

CHANGING TIMES

Six Britons still in hospital after terrorist blast

Shocked holidaymakers tell of airport bomb panic

BY LIN JENKINS

HOLIDAYMAKERS caught in the Spanish airport explosion arrived home yesterday and described the scenes of panic after the bomb blast. They told how the initial silence was broken by screams from children, many of them covered in blood.

Six Britons remained in Spanish hospitals last night. The condition of Karen Kelly, 29, of Southsea, Hampshire, was giving cause for concern. Surgeons removed fragments of metal from her legs.

Emma Baxter, 14, of Southend, Essex, suffered serious shrapnel wounds in her left foot; Jean Harms, 60, had metal splinters in her shoulder; Toni Middleton, 13, had metal fragments in her face and legs; and Mary Tucker, 61, suffered head injuries.

Also injured was Thomas Mahony, 10, from Dublin, who was in stable condition in intensive care with a broken leg and other injuries. He was reunited yesterday with his mother Winifred, 46, who had been treated for face cuts at another hospital.

A total of 33 people were hurt in the blast at Reus airport, near Barcelona, on Saturday evening. Adrian Yeoman, Miss Kelly's boyfriend, described yesterday how he thought she had been killed by the terrorist bomb. "I was at the bar getting some



Holidaymakers being greeted after their return to Birmingham airport from Spain yesterday

drinks when the blast went off. There was a huge bang. I looked over and could see only a cloud of smoke where Karen had been standing. I thought the worst.

"There was loads of blood and people running to get out but all I was worried about was Karen. Then I found her in the bar area being helped into a chair by a man. She was covered in blood and very shocked," said Mr Yeoman, 37, a physiotherapist.

Many of the injured were waiting for flights to Manchester, Birmingham and Gatwick with Britannia, the

Thomson Holidays charter airline. Alan Conway, 39, an engineer from Wigton, had just passed through passport control with his family. "There was smoke everywhere and glass flying and all around there were kids screaming. Everybody was just told to dive to the floor. Then everybody just ran to get out of the building."

Mr Conway became separated from his wife Margaret and daughter Catherine, 13, as he tried to help other panic-stricken passengers. "I found two kids who were screaming that they had lost their par-

ents. I just put my arms round them and said, 'It's OK, it's just a firecracker.'"

A woman from Yorkshire, who asked not to be named, shook with emotion as she told how she had tended a 13-year-old Spanish girl and a six-year-old London boy who were bleeding from leg and arm wounds. "I'm just so angry that children's lives are held so cheap by these people. I feel devastated."

Robert Bucknell, 42, a warden from Rugby, had been on holiday with his wife Linda and daughters Nicola, 10, and Natalie, 8. "There was a lot of confusion. It was the first time our children had been abroad, they were very frightened."

Many of the children who returned to Birmingham yesterday were crying and in shock. Britannia called in extra staff to help passengers as they arrived.

There were 287 passengers due to board the Birmingham flight, 327 bound for Manchester, and 235 passengers for Gatwick.

The number of Britons visiting Spain is slightly down on last year but it is still by far the most popular destination for package tourists. About 4.5 million are expected this year, with almost three million travelling in the peak months of July and August.

Leading article, page 21

Airport bomb part of Eta escalation

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

ALTHOUGH the Basque terrorist group Eta has for some years established a pattern of summer holiday bombings in Spain, this season's campaign is perhaps the relentless yet.

Saturday's explosion at Reus airport in Tarragona, as well as those at Cambriols and Salou, have brought it to 11 — in only 11 days — the total of explosions in areas central to the tourist industry.

Beginning on July 9, Eta has set off bombs in the Costa del Sol resort of Almuñécar, outside the Alhambra in Granada, at the historic *parador* at Jaén and five times in the city centre of Málaga. For the latest Málaga bomb, on Wednesday, there was no warning.

The bomb at Reus airport, however, is proof of a sinister escalation. Not only was it more powerful than the others so far, it was also placed at a site where injuries were inevitable. Reus is particularly

popular with charter flights from Birmingham and Manchester, and Eta must have been aware that innocent British holidaymakers would be the certain victims of any bomb it might plant.

The latest explosions also demonstrate a shift away from Andalucía where the first eight bombs were placed, to Catalonia, whose Costas Dorada and Brava are as popular with British tourists as the southern Costa del Sol.

Any escalation of Eta's terrorist campaign against Spanish holiday resorts would be bound to affect British tourists, who form the largest group of sun-seekers visitors to Spain after the Germans.

In addition to disrupting tourism, Eta's bombs in Catalonia could also be a way of punishing Jordi Pujol, the Catalan premier, for his parliamentary pact with Jose María Aznar, Spain's conservative Prime Minister.

Spanish bomb threat

Continued from page 1
that airports were as busy as ever and that although people were prepared to be more watchful, none seemed ready to forgo their summer holiday on the off-chance that they could become caught up in a bomb attack.

"The British holidaymaker is familiar with the concept of terrorism in their own backyard," Keith Bettton of Abta said. "Our advice to people is to be vigilant as they would be if they saw anything suspicious in their own home town."

German tourists, unused to such events at home, have turned their backs on Turkey

in large numbers after the explosion of incendiary devices. However, the number of Britons travelling to Turkey has increased, with UK visitors shrugging off the terrorist threat and being lured by excellent exchange rates.

Britons appear to be far more concerned with the price of their holiday than any of their European counterparts and an increase in brochure prices to Spain this summer led to a slight decrease in UK visitors.

"Spain has been the No 1 destination for the past 20 years and we can expect it to stay No 1 for probably another 20 years," Mr Bettton said.

Hourly US trips planned

An hourly air "shuttle" service between London and two American cities could operate from next April as British Airways and American Airlines join forces to attract high-spending business travellers. The airlines plan to reschedule services to New York and Chicago, spreading flights throughout the day and sharing the profits. Rival airlines said the "merger" would kill competition and lead to higher prices.

Thieves target airbags

Car thieves thwarted by sophisticated immobilisers are switching their attention to the interior. The RAC says that not only are they stealing telephones and stereo systems, but also airbags to fit into stolen vehicles. However, a stolen airbag is unlikely to work because the mechanism needs more than the steering wheel unit to function and could be dangerous. "Any tampering could have dramatic effects," an RAC spokesman said.

Pride or prejudice

Historic sites in England received 70 million visitors last year, up 4 per cent, partly helped by the TV series of *Pride and Prejudice* increasing attendance at stately homes. In the biggest increase since 1987, the English Tourist Board said that at least 58 properties attracted more than 200,000 visitors. The Tower of London was the top admission-charging site with 2.5 million, and Westminster Abbey had the most free visits with 2.2 million.

Pay council leaders'

Directly-elected mayors paid higher salaries than MPs would run Britain's towns and cities under a radical plan for revitalising local government published by the Association of District Councils. It says leading council members should be trained and paid to avoid so many council decisions being made behind closed doors by a powerful leader who steamrollers the decision through his party group which then rubber-stamps it.

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THE TIMES MONDAY JULY 22 1996

HOME NEWS 3



Gendarmes have reduced the inquiry in Pleine Fougeres, left, to give residents some peace, said Christian Couet, the mayor, top left. Tourists, including Keith Charlton, top right, are worried. In Launceston there were sorrow and tributes

Relief diluted by tears as murdered girl's friends return home

By JOANNA BALE

CHURCHGOERS wept at a service for the murdered teenager Caroline Dickinson yesterday as the vicar of Launceston led prayers and spoke of her parents' "fathomless grief".

Earlier there were emotional scenes at her school, Launceston College, when the 39 pupils who had been with her in France were reunited with their parents.

Close friends of Caroline, 13, who was suffocated and raped, were among those who laid floral

tributes outside the Cornish school yesterday. One had brought a toy cat which was accompanied by a yellow rose. Caroline was fond of cats and had one at home called Bimbo.

The card with it read: "Dear Caroline, I will always miss you for we have really been best friends even before we were born. You always told me how much you loved cats and Bimbo so I thought I would get you a little something for you to remember me and Bimbo by. It's going to be strange not having you around me because

you always were nice and kind to me and always helped me when I had a problem. We had a lot in common and I will still use the bits of advice you gave me. Missing you loads and loads. Love Beth, one of your best friends."

Many of the parents and children were in tears as they hugged each other in the school sports hall at 1am after their coach and ferry journey from Pleine Fougeres in Brittany. Mike Nicholls, a local councillor who met the coach, said: "It was very emotional. There was great joy and relief that the

children were back after having had no contact with their parents for three days because of the police investigation. There was also great sadness that only 39 instead of 40 children came back. Many of Caroline's fellow pupils were crying but as much from relief to be home as from distress."

The Rev Tim Newcombe, vicar of Launceston, also met the coach, and many friends and relatives of those on the trip attended his service yesterday at St Mary Magdalene Church. Mr Newcombe told the congregation that

Caroline would be remembered throughout the service and urged them to light a candle for her afterwards and remember her in their personal prayers.

He said: "I am far too close, though not nearly as close as some, to the events. I was with the parents who were reunited with their children very early this morning. Together with other people I have had no chance to reflect theologically on these events. I therefore suggest that instead of making trite remarks and offering cheap solutions that

are no help to anyone, we do what we came here to do — open ourselves in prayer to God, remembering we do so in the light of the Resurrection."

Caroline's parents, Susan and John, who are divorced, arrived back at their homes in Cornwall in the early hours of yesterday but were said by friends to be too upset to comment. They have a younger daughter.

Yesterday the hunt for the killer was scaled down, to give the people of Pleine Fougeres "some peace", according to Christian

Couet, the mayor. A photofit of an unshaven man in his late thirties with curly hair and bushy eyebrows, which had been shown to people in the town, has been withdrawn without any explanation by the police.

Keith Charlton, who is staying with family and friends on the outskirts of Pleine Fougeres, said he would now be locking all windows and doors at night. Mr Charlton, from Rowlands Gill, Tyne and Wear, found it hard to believe police were pulling out so soon after the girl's murder.

£44m bar bill of student drinkers who won't go far

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE growing university population is spending more of its loans and grants in the campus bar, a survey disclosed yesterday. Student unions took £44 million across the pumps last year, 16 per cent up on the previous year.

Much of it was spent on beer costing as little as a pound a pint. Campus managers claimed that students were not drinking greater amounts, but simply spending more time in their subsidised union bar because they could not afford High Street prices.

Sheffield University students came top of the 1994-95 undergraduate drinking league, with a bar turnover of nearly £2 million. Next came Cardiff (£1.5m), Liverpool, John Moores (£1.4m), Leeds (£1.3m) and Birmingham (£1.1m).

Sophie Ansell, president of Sheffield University union, said: "I don't think students are drinking more. They want to drink at a place where the prices are low, because they have to. Our bar is popular because it is cheap." The huge turnover included food as well as drink.

Douglas Trainer, president of the National Union of Students, denied the figures showed students were drinking more.

He said yesterday: "Students have always had a reputation for working hard

and playing hard despite the crisis in funding during the 1990s. Student unions are making a more competitive push for the student market. It is not a question in any way of students suddenly finding more cash."

Michael Baron, general manager at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, who compiled the figures, said student numbers rose by 14 per cent in the same period.

Leeds University claims its 100ft bar with 112 pumps is the longest and busiest in Europe, apart from the Munich Beer Festival.

Clare Mason, a student spokeswoman at Leeds, said:

"The bar is always full here, but it is a lot of people drinking a little. Takings are up by 20 per cent this year but student numbers have also gone up by almost as much."

The cheapest beer is offered by the student bar at Durham University, at 99p per pint, and at Hull, where prices start at £1 a pint.

Popular TV series highlighting young men drinking heavily could be encouraging men to behave irresponsibly at home and in public, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents said yesterday. It called for research into influences on the "lads' culture" by programmes such as *Men Behaving Badly* and magazines such as *Loaded*.

Rothschild death may have been accidental

FROM SUSAN BELL
IN PARIS

AMSCHEL ROTHSCHILD, the chairman of Rothschild Asset Management who was tipped to be the future head of the banking dynasty, may have died accidentally and not have committed suicide as originally thought.

Police sources in Paris say they are not sure that the 41-year-old banker, whose naked body was found hanging from a towel rail in a bathroom at the Hotel Bristol two weeks ago, took his own life.

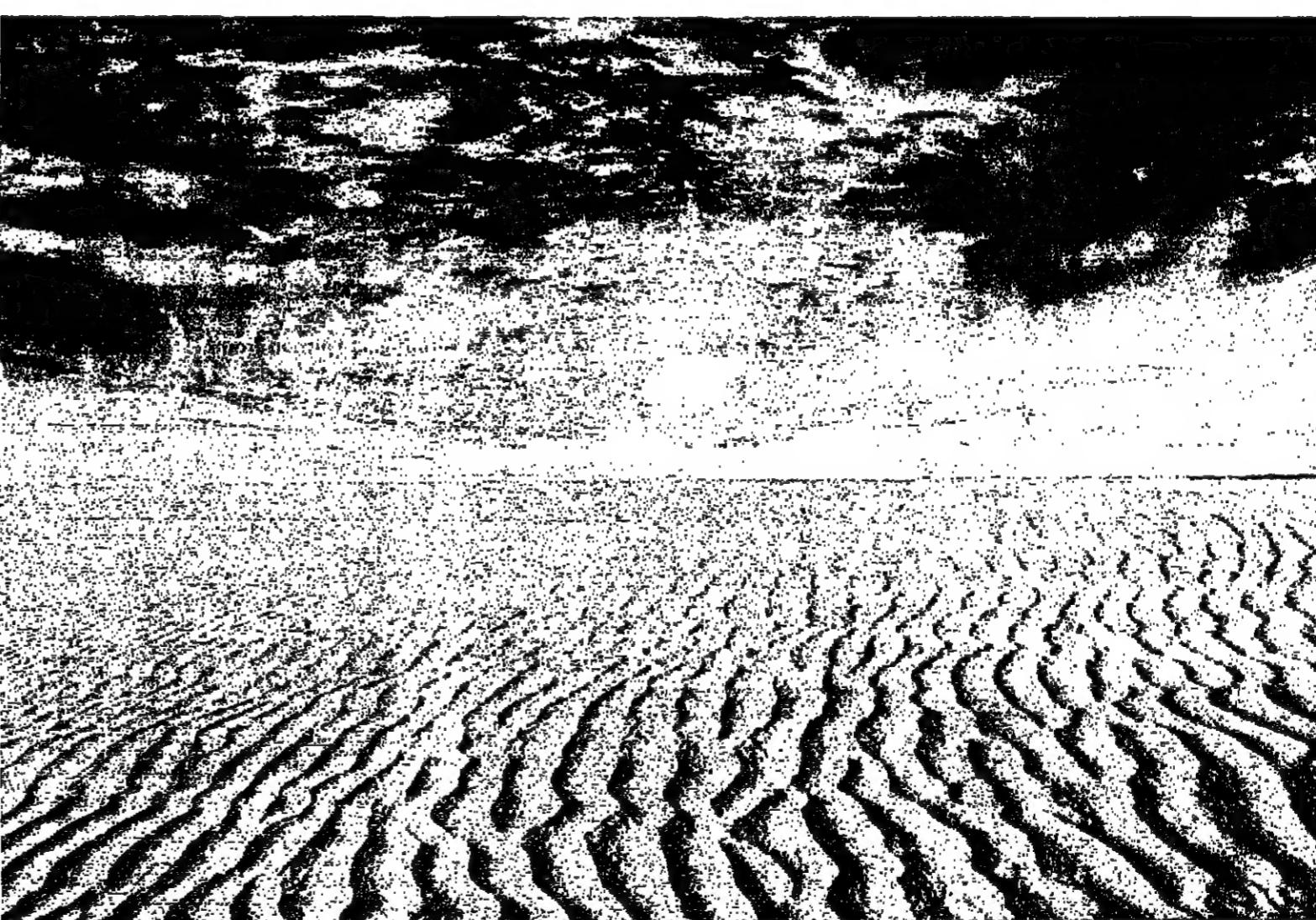
An inquest, which opened at Westminster Coroner's Court on July 16, will resume on August 8.

The Coroner, Dr Paul Knapman, said that while he had no power to summon witnesses from France, he was required to hold an inquest into any "unorthodox or violent deaths abroad".

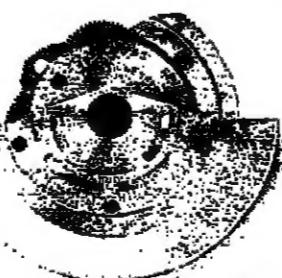
Sources close to the family in Britain have confirmed that Mr Rothschild may have died accidentally. The family had initially suggested that he had suffered a heart attack.

Suggested reasons for Mr Rothschild's death have included depression over the death of his mother and the poor performance of Rothschild Asset Management.

However relatives and close friends said suicide would have been totally out of character. There was no suicide note.



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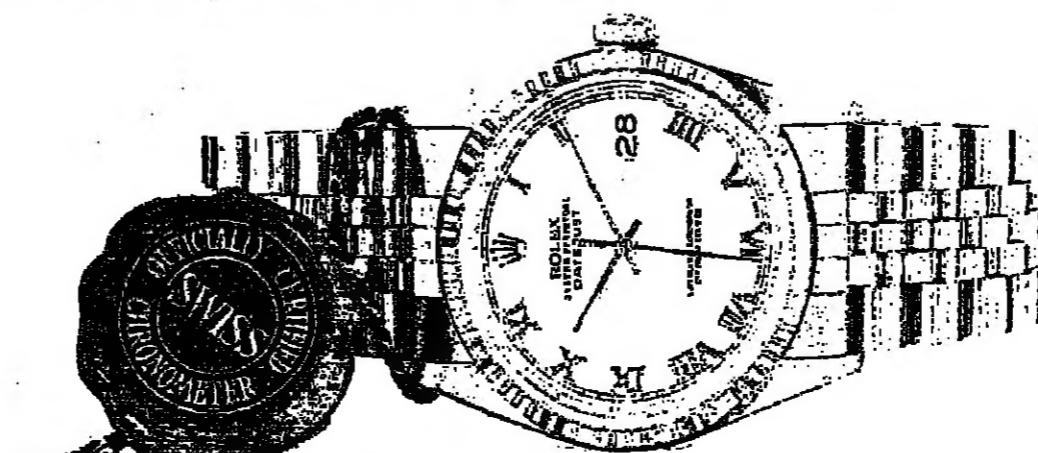
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Temazepam and baseball bats for modern Macbeth

By HELEN JOHNSTONE



LIFE on tough council estates in Britain has provided inspiration for a new interpretation of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, in which drug barons fight for territory and power.

The parallels are emphasised in a film version of "the Scottish play" set on a rundown Birmingham council estate. Macbeth is cast as a drug addict while Duncan is portrayed as a crime baron. The three witches become street urchins in a production which swaps swords for baseball bats.

Residents from the deprived Ladywood estate, where the film is due to be shot next month, are being offered supporting parts such as spear carriers.

The adaptation is the idea of the award-winning film-maker Penny Woolcock, whose research of tough council estates sparked off the idea for the 90-minute film for BBC2.

She said: "Nobody has a job. Since it is impossible for anyone to survive on the dole, money is made illegally. The local economy, crime and punishment are all controlled

by the hard guys. It all reminded me of *Macbeth* where feudal warlords slug it out for territory and power."

In her adaptation Macbeth is a Temazepam-addicted henchman who turns against Duncan on the urging of his wife, releasing a chain of violence and betrayal. Duncan is a local crime godfather surviving through drugs and extortion in a world with no laws. This will be the second

film planned for the Performance season on BBC2 in the autumn.

Hospital faces inquiry over closure of controversial clinic

AN INQUIRY has been ordered into the way a London teaching hospital closed a specialist unit treating children for vitamin deficiency, amid concern about the value of the treatments.

The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in London has set up the independent inquiry, on the instructions of the NHS Executive, into the work of Dr Ray Bhatt, who ran the vitamin B12 unit for 13 years. The unit was closed last January after the hospital refused to renew Dr Bhatt's contract, saying that he had failed to show that his methods had been submitted to proper scientific review.

Dr Bhatt is taking the hospital to an industrial tribunal alleging unfair dismissal and racism and has accused the hospital authorities of libel. He has rejected the inquiry, saying it is not independent, and refused to co-operate

with a review of his research work after taking legal advice.

Dr Bhatt offered hope to parents of children with autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders by declaring that they could be linked to problems in the metabolism of vitamin B12. He claims to have treated hundreds of children since opening his clinic in 1982. His supporters have included two Archbishops of Canterbury and two former presidents of the Royal College of Physicians and the General Medical Council.

Hospital officials say his claims of success are based on anecdotal reports which are not backed by peer-reviewed scientific research. They allege that he has not sought approval from the hospital ethics committee for his research.

Some B12 experts are worried that Dr Bhatt has raised false hopes among parents. They say

■ Experts are concerned that Dr Ray Bhatt has raised hopes among parents of autistic children with treatment that has not been subjected to scientific research. Jeremy Laurance reports

that although there could be a link between B12 deficiency and mental disorders, it is crucial that research is done in a structured way so that it can be tested by other scientists.

Professor James Leonard, an authority on B12 deficiency at the Institute of Child Health, London, said: "I am aware of very few peer-reviewed publications by Dr Bhatt. I do read the literature carefully."

A second British expert, who did not wish to be named, said he would not refer patients to Dr Bhatt. "For these very rare metabolic disorders, there are other units in Canada and the United

States that I would use." An international expert said: "My caution is that Dr Bhatt is generalising treatment [for B12 deficiency] in areas beyond those that are well known. I am worried he is holding up simple treatments for patients that may not be so simple."

Dr Bhatt angered US colleagues three years ago when he invited them to an international conference in London and Italy, promising to reimburse certain expenses. He was unable to do so after an expected contribution from the Italian Government failed to materialise, but last week he said

that most delegates would receive 30 to 40 per cent of their claims within the next few months. "Please may they forgive me," he said.

Dr Bhatt, an employee of the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, ran the B12 clinic with funding from the Children's Medical Charity, which he helped to found, but this was withdrawn in 1995. When he sought financial help from the hospital, with which he had an honorary contract, managers asked for evidence that his work had been peer reviewed and submitted for ethical approval.

The medical school appointed as academic referees Professor David Rosenblatt, a renowned expert on B12 deficiency from McGill University, Montreal, and Professor Victor Herbert of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, a long-time supporter of Dr Bhatt.

Peter Griffiths, medical director

of the medical school, said that he had received a favourable report from Professor Herbert but had been unable to complete the review because Dr Bhatt had not sent necessary papers to Professor Rosenblatt.

Dr Bhatt was offered a six-month extension of his contract so that he could complete treatment of the patients remaining in his care, but turned down the offer.

The inquiry into the closure of Dr Bhatt's unit will be conducted by two professors from the Institute of Child Health. Dr John Collins, medical director of the Chelsea and Westminster, said: "I don't have to search my soul about this. I genuinely believe we are following correct scientific and ethical practice."

Last week Dr Bhatt was referring all press inquiries to the libel lawyers Peter Carter-Ruck & Part-

ners. But he agreed to reply in person after a list of questions was faxed to his lawyers. He said the reasons behind the closure of his unit were "chronic economic deprivation and professional jealousy".

He said that all of the unit's clinical and diagnostic procedures were described in standard medical textbooks and that many autistic children had definite indications for the investigation of their B12 metabolism. "The methods of treatment have been published and accepted by many leading autho-

rities," Dr Bhatt said.

He added that his work had been reviewed by international experts "on a number of occasions between 1976 and 1990" and the outcome had been satisfactory each time. He had rejected the new contract offered because it was more restrictive and "contravened medical ethics".

Treasury woman's party link to be investigated

By EMMA WILKINS

TREASURY officials will today begin an inquiry after it emerged that the author of leaked radical strategy documents was seeking the nomination for a safe Labour seat at the next election.

Helen Goodman, a Grade 7 civil servant who was chief architect of the internal report, will be interviewed by senior managers, led by Sir Terence Burns, Permanent Secretary to the Treasury.

The investigation will examine allegations that Ms Goodman, 37, may have misled colleagues when asked about her political activities in the Labour seat of Barnsley East. Ms Goodman, who is four months pregnant, unexpectedly withdrew from the shortlist in a telephone call to the constituency Labour Party on Friday. There is no suggestion that she leaked the report.

The Treasury document, reported exclusively in *The Times* on Wednesday, out-

lined radical proposals for privatising the welfare state and adopting American Re-publican-style ideas to reduce the levels of government.

It was immediately seized upon by Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, who attacked it as an attempt to demolish the welfare state.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, claimed the report was the work of "kids" in the Treasury. But by Thursday it had emerged that Ms Goodman, who joined the Civil Service after reading politics, philosophy, and economics at Oxford University, was the author.

Ms Goodman is married to Charles Seftor, publisher of a left-of-centre magazine called *Prospect*. In Barnsley, she is known only by her married name.

Mick Harper, secretary of the Barnsley East and Mexborough constituency Labour Party, said: "She telephoned to say that she wanted

to withdraw but she didn't mention anything about the report. I was a bit surprised but I didn't put two and two together until later because I only know her by her married name. I didn't realise it was the same person."

Ms Goodman won the nomination from the Mexborough branch of the constituency after speaking at the Mexborough Athletics Club earlier this month. "She talked about the state of the local area, especially unemployment from all the pit closures. She had obviously done a lot of research into the area," Mr Harper said.

Terry Patten, the sitting Labour MP, is seriously ill and is due to step down at the next election. Ms Goodman was down to the last six on the shortlist. The new MP will now be chosen on August 3 from a shortlist of five.

Ms Goodman is the deputy team leader of the Strategy.

Finance and Purchasing Department. She works on the fourth floor of the Treasury building in Whitehall, two levels above the Chancellor.

Civil servants at Grade 7 fall into a "politically restricted category". They are not allowed to engage in national political activities and must seek permission to take part in local political activities. According to the rule book, national political activity is defined as holding office in any party political organisation that impinges on party politics; speaking in public on matters of national political controversy; and being announced as a candidate.

According to the Cabinet Office, Ms Goodman has not broken any rules over political conduct.

If Ms Goodman had been adopted as a prospective parliamentary candidate, she would have had to resign, but she didn't get that far," a



Sir Terence: he will lead the questioning

Cabinet Office spokeswoman said.

Labour sources admitted to "mild embarrassment" that Gordon Brown's offensive last week against Tory plans to strip away the welfare state was provoked by the writing of a party colleague. However, a senior figure said: "In the end this report was written at the request of ministers."

Letters, page 21

Labour MP accuses Blair over votes for Harman

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership was accused yesterday of "stuffing the ballot box" to secure Harriet Harman's election to the Shadow Cabinet this week.

Backbench Labour MPs claim that the vote was timed for Wednesday, the last day before the Commons recess, because many backbenchers will have left by then. Diane Abbott, a left-wing Labour MP, warned Tony Blair yesterday that "strong-arm" tactics might keep Ms Harman in the Shadow Cabinet but would not be "sustainable in the long term".

Backbenchers are concerned that some proxy votes have been left with party business managers.

The number of candidates to be confirmed today will be far smaller than in previous years because of the absence of any frontbench nominations outside the present Shadow Cabinet. Leadership sources dismissed accusations that the elections had been manipulated to ensure the survival of Shadow Cabinet members.

Unlike other frontbenchers, who have eschewed the normal pre-election publicity, Ms

dates. Although senior Labour figures expect Ms Harman to retain her place, they concede that her vote is likely to drop substantially in the smallest poll for many years.

Ms Abbott, who has been a critic of Ms Harman's decision to send her sons to selective schools, said that the Shadow Health Secretary had appeared a "feisty bit arrogant" about her sons' education and seemed to have left the party open to charges of hypocrisy.

She told BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*: "I understand that my friend Margaret Harman — I've known her for years — is going to have her own Assisted Places Scheme, that the whips are telling people they can go on holiday early if they hand over their ballot paper."

"If they stuff ballot boxes, of course she'll make it back. In a straightforward secret ballot I don't think she would."

Ms Abbott said Ms Harman had "made Labour look as if we do one thing and say another. And actually 99 per cent of Labour MPs send their children to comprehensive schools."

Monks angered by party's call to suspend Underground strikes

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

TONY BLAIR'S call for London Tube drivers to call off their strike came under fire from the TUC and several Labour MPs yesterday.

In his first response to the series of one-day strikes, planned to continue on Thursday, the Labour leader last week pressed for industrial action "as a last resort". He criticised "knee-jerk reactions" to the dispute.

Mr Blair was joined by Labour MPs in his criticism. Andrew Mackinlay, Labour MP for Thurrock, told Sky television's *Sunday programme*: "A prudent position for a leader of the Opposition would be not to trespass into

an industrial relations dispute." Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North-West, said Blair's comments "came too late, apart from anything else."

Mr Blair risked further criticism when he was asked whether Labour is considering a ban on strikes in essential services. Mr Blair replied: "No, that is not our policy at the moment." But aides insisted there were no plans to introduce such a ban in future.

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THE TIMES MONDAY JULY 22 1996

Two killed as Mosquito crashes at air display

By KATE ALDERSON

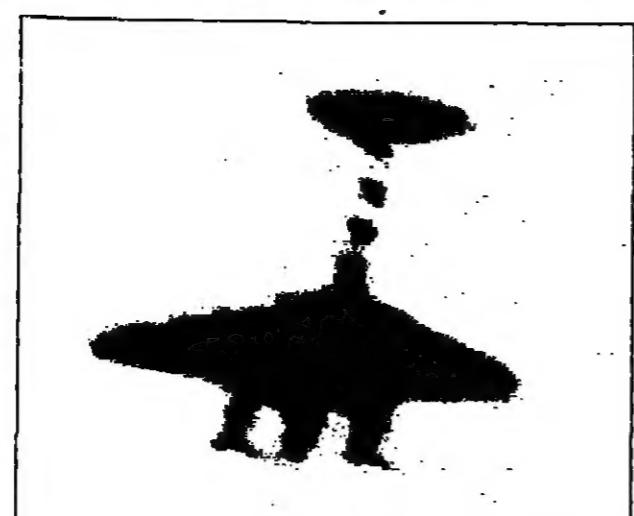
THE last airworthy Mosquito fighter-bomber crashed at an air display yesterday, killing the pilot and navigator.

The World War Two aircraft went out of control during a dive at Barton Air Show at Salford in Greater Manchester. Witnesses said it burst into flames as it crashed into dense woodland about a mile from Barton Aerodrome.

Clive Heather, operations manager for Greater Manchester Ambulance, who was at the aerodrome to provide on-site medical assistance, said: "It was going through an obviously well-rehearsed routine. Then it climbed higher and higher towards the edge of the airfield before it spiralled round and round. It became quite obvious that it wasn't going to come out of it. We heard the crash and then we saw the smoke. We saw debris strewn across a potato field and the woodland on fire."

Paramedics, who originally thought only the pilot was in the plane, fought through the fire to reach the cockpit and found two bodies. They were recovered and were flown by RAF helicopter to Hope Hospital, Manchester, where staff were trying to locate next of kin. Greater Manchester Police said the identities of the two men would not be released until relatives had been informed.

There were no other casualties in the incident but Lancashire Aero Club, which runs



The plane seconds before crashing and exploding

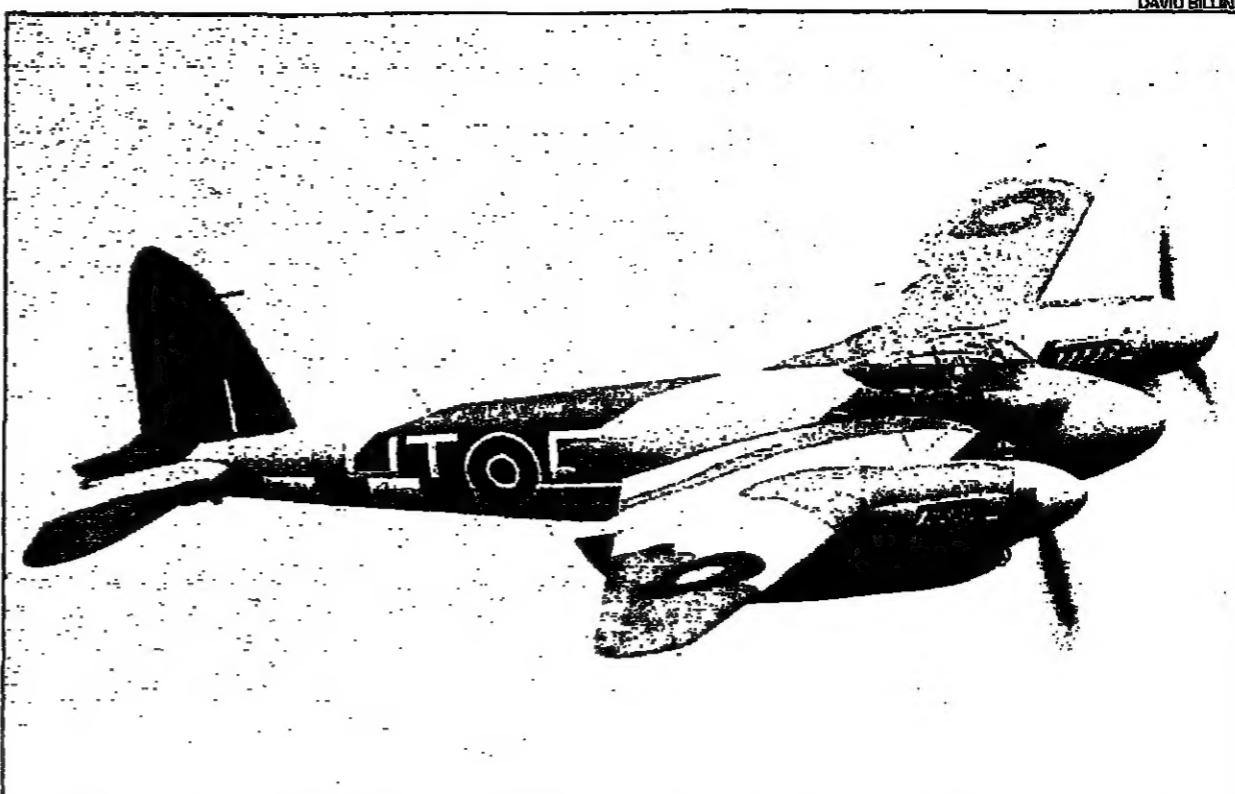
fires, as well as wing walkers.

Spectators said the 50-year-old Mosquito, owned by British Aerospace, appeared to either stall or develop a fault in the wing mechanism. Graham Jones, 46, from Manchester, said: "The plane went into a climb up to about 1,000 feet to go into a dive. The pilot then rolled the plane over to the right so it was upside down to go into the dive. But the left wing of his aircraft suddenly dipped. Although the pilot tried right himself, the plane started falling."

"The pilot needed to go back into a dive to regain control and he began a nose dive. But he only had 600 feet left to play with. He started to pull out of the dive at the last minute but it was too late and the plane disappeared into the woods."

John Hadfield, flight safety officer at British Aerospace, said that both men were dedicated and highly experienced. The pilot, a professional with many years of flying experience, had flown the plane many times. The second man was believed to be the engineer in charge of looking after it on the ground.

Mr Hadfield said the crash



The Mosquito appeared to be flying normally during the early part of its display at Barton Air Show yesterday

had destroyed an important piece of aviation history. "It is the loss of a unique aircraft" — the last flying example of its type in Britain. The wreckage would now be recovered and examined to discover what could have caused it to crash.

The De Havilland Mosquito was known for its speed and

versatile military aircraft, used as a day and night fighter, a bomber, and a torpedo-bomber as well as for reconnaissance.

□ Three brothers who booked a flight with the Airbourne Flying School in Bournemouth, Dorset, in a light aircraft had a lucky escape

when the plane got caught in trees at the end of the runway.

William, Adrian and Ian Johnson, who were returning home to the Isle of Wight, found themselves perched 20ft above the ground and, together with the pilot, had to climb down a tree to safety. They later hired a car to get home.

Tourists hurt in Highlands bus crash

By A STAFF REPORTER

FORTY-nine people were injured, three seriously, when a holiday coach carrying elderly tourists plunged down an embankment and overturned near Loch Lomond yesterday.

One 70-year-old man severed his arm in the accident at Arden in Strathclyde and was flown by air ambulance to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow. A number of people scrambled free through a roof hatch on the vehicle's roof and five passengers were pulled to safety by firefighters.

Police said the accident happened as the coach drove south along the A82 road with 51 passengers, most of them from Northern Ireland, after a tour of the Highlands. No other vehicle was involved.

Chief Superintendent Kenneth McInnes, of Strathclyde Police, said the coach was owned by the company Highland Heritage.

The coach left the north-bound carriageway and topped on its side down a slight embankment into a field. Road conditions were good and not busy, he said.

He said the driver of the coach, who was not seriously injured, had taken a breath test, which was negative.

Gang fight disrupts Channel crossing

By TIM JONES

A CHANNEL ferry captain kept a dozen drunken teenagers locked on the bridge of his ship yesterday after a gang fight.

The youths started running battles on deck shortly after the *Stena Normandy* left Southampton for Cherbourg on Saturday evening. Captain George Hellier and crew members escorted the youths to the bridge where they were told to behave. They were prevented from disembarking when the ship docked.

As it headed back to its home port yesterday, the youths again started fighting on the bridge. In spite of his warnings, they continued to brawl and Captain Hellier radioed ahead to ask Hampshire Police force officers to meet his ship.

Eight police officers ordered the youths to remain on the bridge until all the other passengers had gone before escorting them to the dock side.

At 8am yesterday about eight members of the opposing gangs gathered outside a Southampton nightclub where they resumed hostilities. Two youths were arrested.

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Estate construction work could release bacteria spores lying dormant in disused tanning works

Anthrax outbreak casts shadow over homes site

By MICHAEL HORNBY

FEARS of an outbreak of anthrax caused by spores that have lain dormant for decades is delaying the start of a major housing development.

Spores of the anthrax bacteria, lying inert for decades in the soil, are thought to have been disturbed by dredging work on Storridge Farm, near Westbury in Wiltshire, where three cattle have died of the disease since early June.

Anthrax is one of the deadliest and oldest diseases known to man. It can infect humans as well as livestock and, although it is extremely rare in Britain, its most severe form is nearly always fatal if not treated promptly with antibiotics.

Local people fear the spores might have been carried along a stream from an abandoned leather works on the outskirts of Westbury, where infected hides are said to have been buried in the past. The farm is about a mile and a half

THE DISEASE

- Anthrax is caused by a bacterium, *Bacillus anthracis*, which infects animals and humans. Spores of the bacterium can remain infectious for years.
- In 1942 scientists exploded anthrax canisters over flocks of sheep on Gruinard Island off northwest Scotland in a germ warfare experiment. The island was declared safe only in 1988 after a two-year decontamination programme that involved burning off vegetation and treating the soil.
- Since 1989 only seven human cases of anthrax have been reported in Britain. The last death was in 1979.
- The most common route for infection is through cuts and cracks in the skin. Leatherworkers, dockers and warehousemen handling hides are at most risk, along with farmers and vets.
- Less common, but far more serious, is pulmonary anthrax, caused by inhalation of the spores. This internal form of the disease is nearly always fatal within days.

downstream from the works. The former tannery forms part of a 50-acre site, mostly now farmland, that has been earmarked for development. West Wiltshire District Council is considering a proposal to build 800 homes, a supermarket and a primary school.

Alison Irving, a Liberal

Democrat councillor who lives downstream from the works, said: "Local residents are worried that once construction workers start disturbing the site, they could release anthrax spores that have been lying dormant up to now."

Concern voiced by Mrs Irving led the council's planning committee to defer a decision on the housing scheme and to ask Persimmon Homes, the development company, to analyse soil and water at the site.

David Bardwell, the council's principal environmental officer, said: "We are aware of the site's history and we need to be sure that it is safe for development." He added:

"The developers need to be satisfied, too, because their employees would be most at risk."

The managing director of Persimmon Homes, Clive Drinkwater, said: "We are in the process of appointing consultants to investigate and report back on the condition of the land. We will then agree with the local authority any work which may need to be undertaken."

There is pressure to develop the site as the council has been allocated 11,000 of the 65,000 houses that the Department of the Environment says Wiltshire must provide by 2011. It is government policy to target old industrial sites where possible.

The leather works, which dates from the last century and once employed 200 people, went out of business in 1983 and is a wasteland of broken-down buildings and rusting machinery.

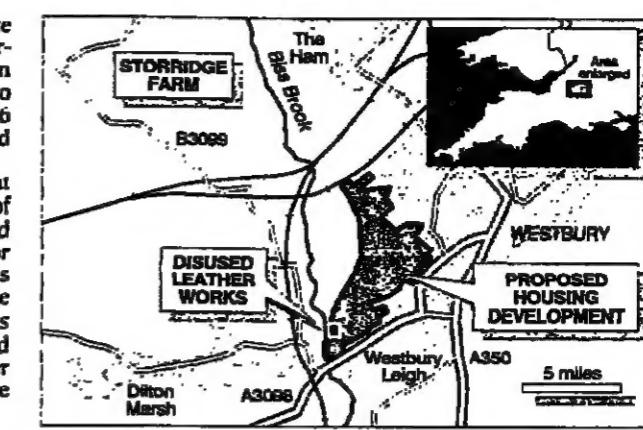
In the 1950s, a cluster of

anthrax cattle deaths occurred on farms either side of Biss Brook, which runs through the former tannery. There are records showing that the owners paid farmers compensation for the animals.

Former workers at the tan-

inery say that in the immediate postwar years, imported foreign hides often came with an anthrax warning. One who worked at the plant from 1946 to 1981 remembers two mild cases among employees.

Until the latest outbreak at Storridge Farm, no cases of anthrax among cattle had been reported in the area for more than 20 years. It is thought the farmer may have disturbed old anthrax spores while dredging a ditch and spread them unwittingly over adjacent pasture where cattle were grazing.



Concern voiced by Alison Irving led the council to defer a decision on development and to ask for soil tests

Princess complains to press watchdog

By EMMA WILKINS

THE Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York have reported the *Daily Mirror* to the Press Complaints Commission after the newspaper published long-lens photographs showing them relaxing by a swimming pool in the South of France.

The newspaper devoted five pages to an article and photographs of the Princess asleep on a sun lounger and holding hands with Prince Harry, II, during a private holiday at a villa near Cannes.

The Princess was wearing a bikini. Pictures of the Duchess showed her dressed in a swimming costume and using a mobile telephone by the pool. Prince William, 14, was also pictured.

The women received copies of Saturday's edition of the *Daily Mirror* by fax from their offices in London within hours of publication. The Duchess is pursuing a separate action against the newspaper for trespass on private property and invasion of privacy.

At a recent meeting with Piers Morgan, the Editor of the *Mirror*, over lunch at Kensington Palace in London, the Princess tried to explain her worries over invasions of privacy. She was yesterday said to be "less than happy" that his newspaper had published the pictures.

A spokeswoman for the Princess explained why she had decided to take action. "These photographs were extremely intrusive. They are on a private holiday in a private villa and the pictures should not have been taken."

The PCC will consider the complaint and announce a judgment at a later date.

East End wins curbs on grisly Ripper trips

By RICHARD FORD

JACK the Ripper tours in London's East End are to be curbed after residents complained of grisly descriptions and tourists gaping through their windows.

Householders in Whitechapel and Spitalfields, where the notorious killer operated, have complained to Tower Hamlets council about "voyeuristic" trips which glorify violence against women.

They say that, almost a century after the killing of five women in the area, the Jack the Ripper industry is blighting their neighbourhood. The worst of the estimated 40 official and unofficial tours are accused of relating the multiple injuries suffered by the women in gory detail.

Phoebe Tait, who lives on the well-trodden route, said that some tours stood outside homes most nights until 9.30pm listening to tales of the Ripper's most violent acts.

She said that much of the detail was inaccurate and it was unpleasant to be constantly reminded of the murders. Others residents have complained of tourists blocking pavements and peering into their homes.

Up to 100 householders signed a petition calling for action. The Labour-run council is working on a code of conduct to moderate the descriptions used by guides and restrict where tourists stand on pavements. It also wants guides to promote positive features of the area. The council cannot take action under the Environmental Protection Act or public health laws because the tours are not a "statutory nuisance" or an "offensive trade".



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Moscow looks at Afghan option for Chechenia peace

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

THE latest brutal Russian assault on southern Chechenia, in contravention of a pre-election peace deal, may be a prelude to an "Afghan option" in which Moscow pulls out most of its troops and leaves a well-armed local Government to cope by itself, according to two senior generals.

The man to declare a latest shift in policy towards the breakaway republic should be Aleksandr Lebed, the Russian security chief, who is expected to visit Chechenia in the next few days.

In their continuing assault on a series of rebel-controlled villages, Russian forces yesterday again used air power and artillery, both of which are ruled out in a peace treaty signed on June 10 during the presidential election campaign.

During fighting in the mountainous Shatoy region, the Russians said 60 Chechen fighters had been killed, while Movladi Udugov, a Chechen spokesman, said 150 Russian soldiers had died. Neither claim could be independently verified.

Last week NTV television reported at least 20 civilian deaths and widespread devastation in the village of Makhkety after similar air raids. The village has seen destruction like this before. A

famous scene in Leo Tolstoy's tale of the Caucasian wars, *Hadj Murat*, describes how Makhkety is raided and burnt by Russian soldiers in 1852.

Sergei Kovalyov, the former dissident and leading critic of the Chechen war, denounced President Yeltsin and General Lebed last week for hypocrisy.

"I knew from the start that your promises were a lie," he said in a letter written from a hospital bed where he is recovering from a heart attack. "But the country believed you. Both of you deceived 40 million voters who supported you."

General Lebed used to be a fierce critic of the Chechen war, but he has so far endorsed the latest intensification in the fighting. However, two former comrades of the general, interviewed last week, were cautiously optimistic that his visit to the breakaway republic could be part of a pre-planned scenario.

When Eduard Vorobyov resigned as deputy commander of Russian land forces at the beginning of the Chechen war, one of the first men to ring him up with words of support was General Lebed.

"Lebed is waiting for a defeat to be inflicted on the rebels," General Vorobyov said on Friday. The security chief would then visit the

republic and announce that Russia was sticking to the main point of the June peace plan: a gradual withdrawal of forces, who would hand over responsibility to the local Chechen police and a small number of Interior Ministry troops.

From Moscow's point of view, this strategy would solve two conflicting problems: the television news would stop reporting the deaths of young soldiers, while the rebels, weakened by the latest heavy assaults, would not immediately be assured of seizing power. In essence, it is a repeat of the "Afghan option" in which Moscow pulled out of Afghanistan only after arming its proxy Government, which then managed to cling on to power.

Ruslan Aushev, an Afghan War veteran and Hero of the Soviet Union, who is President of the neighbouring republic of Ingushetia, said the new offensive was a "mechanism of pressure" on the rebels. But he thought the strategy was dangerous and the rebels were not easily beaten.

Having served with General Lebed in Afghanistan, he said he also believed in the security chief's character, but said he was being enmeshed by unfamiliar Kremlin politics. "He has not been properly informed," Mr Aushev said.



Sabbath protest by zealots

An ultra-Orthodox Jew shouts "Shabat" (Sabbath in Hebrew) during a demonstration in Jerusalem at the weekend demanding greater respect for the Jewish day of rest. About 5,000 fundamentalists protested for the third week running on a

main Jerusalem street. But for the first time they faced a 2,000-strong counter-demonstration by left-wing protesters. The ultra-Orthodox Jews tried to stop traffic on Bar Ilan Street, throwing stones, bottles and rubbish at passing vehicles. (AFP)

Israelis exchange prisoners for bodies

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN JERUSALEM

A MACABRE and complex exchange of bodies and prisoners between Israel and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God) took place yesterday, providing evidence that the hardline Government of Binyamin Netanyahu is still able to do business with its Arab enemies. Under the

terms of the deal, brokered in secrecy over the past four months by Bernd Schmidbauer, a senior German intelligence official, the remains of two Israeli privates who died after their capture by Hezbollah in 1986 were swapped for the remains of the bodies of 123 Hezbollah fighters killed by Israel.

Also involved in the exchange, which was indirectly

approved by Iran, were 45 Lebanese prisoners held in the notorious el-Hiam prison in occupied southern Lebanon by Israel's proxy force, the South Lebanon Army. In return, 21 SLA prisoners held by Hezbollah were returned southwards to the Israeli-held security zone.

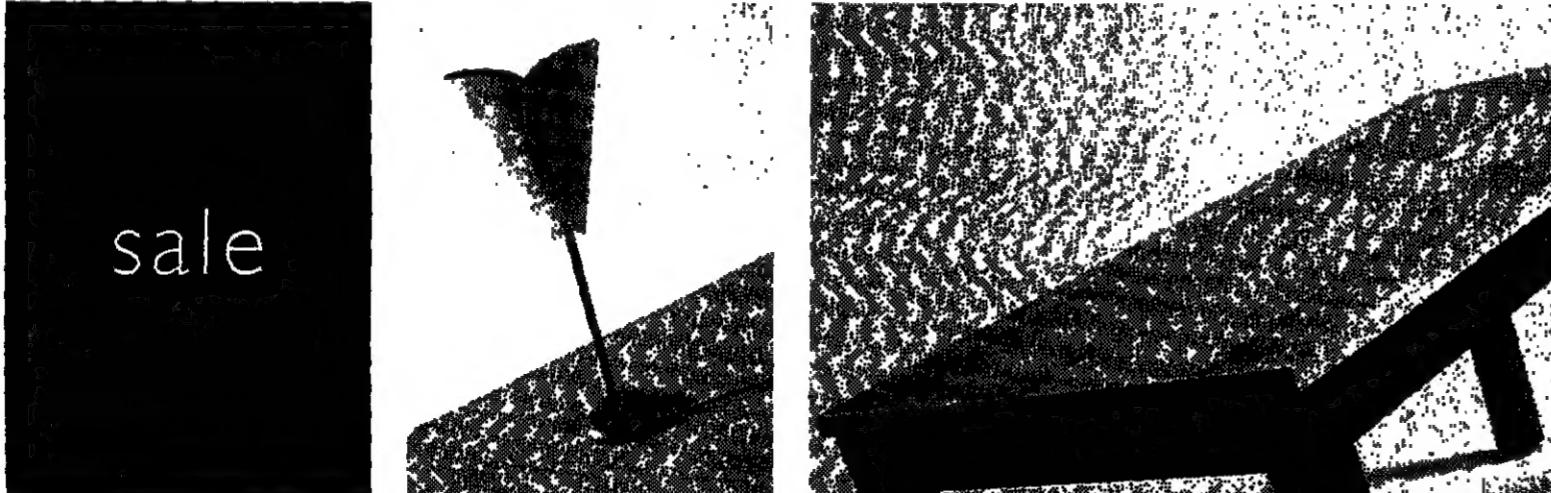
The exchange was the biggest since Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon. Diplomats

said it could give impetus to a possible agreement between Lebanon and Israel's right-wing Government, which has expressed interest in a limited deal to stop hostilities in southern Lebanon.

■ Mandela visit: President Mandela of South Africa postponed a Middle Eastern trip. It will take place in October rather than next month and include Egypt and Israel.

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Danes hail local hero's Tour win

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

FLAT Denmark — a cyclist's paradise where just about everyone has a bicycle — is awash with patriotic fervour after countryman Bjarne Riis' stunning triumph in the Tour de France.

Not since the Danish football team's surprise win in the European Championship in Sweden in 1992 has the country been so excited about a sporting victory.

In recent weeks Danes have been following Riis' arduous progress through France, with more than one million people, a fifth of the population, tuning in to watch key the mountain stages. The Danish tabloids have been indulging in headlines such as "Riis set for victory in Paris" and "Hail the Mountain King".

Travel agents and coach operators dispatched thousands of Danes to Paris for yesterday's final stage. Riis fever has swept cycle shops, with record sales reported.

Tour report, page 35

Cycling holidays in Denmark have also been given a boost.

Riis is due back in Denmark this afternoon after he and his victorious German Telekom team pay their respects to Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, in Bonn. Riis is to be feted on the open-air stage in Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens at a special mass concert. Local celebrities and dignitaries including Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, the Prime Minister, are expected to attend.

Although everyone in Denmark is aglow with national pride over Riis' victory few Danes know him as, like many other top Danish sportsmen, he lives abroad. Riis has been a resident of Luxembourg for the past decade. After a brief visit to his home in Herning he will set off to compete in the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Dubai: A retired mosque preacher, Ali Matar bin Ghurair, has died aged 136. Arab Emirates newspapers said. He is survived by 103 grandchildren and great grandchildren. One of his sons is 98. Villagers said he liked long walks. (Reuters)

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PRUDENTIAL

Blair's long-winded way of saying 'No' to the euro

IN EUROPE

Who is winning the battle for Tony Blair's car? Decoding Labour leadership's nuances on Europe has become a growth industry employing a swelling army of Eurocrats, foreign diplomats and teenage diplomats in the City. These pundits are puzzled. With Mr Blair's grip on his party stronger than ever — he marked two years in charge at the weekend — less and less hard information emerges about his real intentions.

When a political party is run by a monarch, three groups influence the king's policy line: the popularists (views transmitted by pollsters), the king's courtiers (spin doctors, aides and consultants) and the barons (Shadow Cabinet men such as Robin Cook and Gordon

Brown). Because King Tony is neither greatly interested nor closely engaged in European policy, his soundbites are forged in the melting pot of competing influences.

Until this summer, Labour's signals on the single currency were more positive than negative. After months of contemplating the problems of office from very close range indeed, the Blair court

is now emitting subtly different noises.

A month ago in Bonn, Mr Blair won a standing ovation from businessmen for a "positive on Europe" speech which nevertheless pointed out that a badly executed monetary union might put jobs at risk. "The result," he said, "could be a reaction among the people that could be severe, nationalist in tone and dangerous". Mr Blair projects himself as a post-modern Gaullist passionately in favour of weaving European nations together for the sake of peace, but coolly hard-headed in his judgment of the national interest. This chimes with public feeling, but divides the king's courtiers and barons. The pro-single currency faction has retreated to sniping at Mr Cook for suggesting

that a Blair government will make a surprise dash for the single currency as soon as he has secured a large majority at Westminster.

Mr Cook's enemies paint him as an influential, Eurosceptical Rasputin who would wield even more power if he became Foreign Secretary. Wouldn't Robin, they whisper, make a superb Home Secretary?

More than a whispering campaign would be required to dislodge Mr Cook, who has been busy dispelling any impression that he is disappointed not to be involved in economic policy. Since under new rules Mr Cook is allowed access to the Foreign Office's top official, he can see what he might be doing after a May 1, 1997, election

victory. There will be an EU summit in Amsterdam in June. On July 1 Hong Kong is handed to China and the Foreign Secretary joins the "troika" which represents the EU to the world. A Commonwealth heads of government summit is due in Edinburgh that autumn. He chairs a Europe-Asia conference in February 1998, just as Britain takes over the chair of the G7 summit. That spring EU leaders are to gather in Britain to decide who joins the single currency. Plenty of big-time platforms in that calendar.

Labour's policy experts have also been identifying the EU topics which can be used in a New Labour charm offensive in Brussels. The Social Chapter will be signed, alongside an attempt to soften its impact on industry. London will start to be nice to Portugal over East Timor. And the Tory Government's veto of an EU plan for ... er ... inland waterways will be lifted.

After the rest of the EU has recovered from this raft of revolutions comes the punchline on the single currency. "I could write the speech for you now," said a Labour policy-maker the other day, and then did so. "We've always said we're pro-European. But we've always said real economics are the key to monetary union. We've had a look at the books and the British economy is in a far bigger mess than we thought. Thanks for the invitation to join monetary union, but we'll have to pass this time round."

GEORGE BROCK

Serb forces 'would not resist arrest of Karadzic'

By EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE arrest of Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serbs' wartime leader, would not provoke a violent reaction among his people, the Bosnian Serb Army said at the weekend.

Senior Serb officers told the commander of ground forces in Nato's peace force in Bosnia that the Serb military had nothing to do with threats of retaliation against Nato and UN personnel.

General Zdravko Tolimir, deputy to General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military leader who is shunned by the Nato-led Ifor because he, like Dr Karadzic, has been indicted as a war criminal, told Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Walker, the ground forces commander, that the Serb military was indifferent to Dr Karadzic's removal.

Plans that there would be a backlash against moves to arrest Dr Karadzic and try him for war crimes at the UN tribunal in The Hague have



An American soldier of the Nato-led implementation force in Bosnia indicates the site, about three miles from the Serb-held town of Brcko, where a US Navy F18 fighter accidentally dropped a 500lb bomb on Saturday, hitting the perimeter of a base occupied by US members of the peace force. There were no reports of casualties.

been further allayed by a group of senior Western analysts. The International Crisis Group, which includes former Prime Ministers (Michel Rocard of France, Mark Eyskens of Belgium and Malcolm Fraser of Australia) and several former foreign ministers, is chaired by George Mitchell, the former US senator who also chairs the all-party talks on Northern Ireland. It has been monitoring non-military aspects of the Dayton peace agreement.

The group sent a team to the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale outside Sarajevo which has concluded in a report that "the likelihood of violence if Karadzic is arrested is minimal", adding: "The long-term risks of leaving him at liberty outweigh the short-term risks of arresting him".

The report goes on: "As long as Karadzic is at liberty, even if no longer President, the existing power structure will be unchanged... It is difficult to see how Pale might use

violence, apart from hostage-taking and minor acts of terrorism, against Ifor or the international community in the event of Karadzic's arrest."

The group does caution, however, that most of the moderate political opponents to Dr Karadzic's SDS party are also opposed to his arrest. "While they agree that Karadzic is a war criminal,

they insist that, if he is to be tried, then so should both Alija Izetbegovic (the Bosnian President) and Franjo Tudjman (the Croatian President)."

The group says that "most ordinary Serbs in Republika Srpska have lost touch with reality... they simply cannot understand why the international community appears bent on creating a Muslim

state in Europe. While the popular Serb analysis of the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina is selective and skewed, the conspiracy theorists have plenty of ammunition," the report says.

"They draw particular attention to the fall of the Serb republic of Krajina in Croatia and the fate of the Sarajevo Serbs" who fled or were

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Government rocked by huge Tamil assault

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

THE Tamil Tigers have killed hundreds of Sri Lankan troops in four of the bloodiest days of fighting in the 13-year separatist uprising. The Government's boast that it would end the war by next year suddenly looks embarrassing hollow.

The armed forces were last night trying to reinforce the strategic Mullaitivu base in the northeast of the island, which the Tigers claimed to have captured.

The rebels said in a statement from London that more than 1,000 troops had died. This is undoubtedly an exaggeration, but military sources acknowledged that the toll was extremely high.

The Government announced in Colombo that it had lost contact with Mullaitivu and an air force official admitted last night: "Repeated efforts to reach the beleaguered troops have failed. We have still not reached the camp."

The Defence Ministry later said a naval craft had landed commandos on the beach near

the base after beating off intense rebel fire. A spokesman said Mi-24 helicopter gunships had destroyed several Tiger suicide naval vessels in the process of landing the troops.

The statements amount to a tacit acknowledgement that the armed forces are facing one of their most devastating losses of the war, perhaps on the scale of the 1993 assault on the Pooneryn army base in the north of the island in which 750 soldiers, as well as 700 Tigers, died. The battle will force the Government and the

armed forces to reassess the rebels' capabilities.

It is the first big confrontation since the Tigers were ousted from their headquarters in Jaffna city in December — the fighters' greatest psychological defeat and one the Government thought would turn the tide irreversibly against them.

The Tigers' deceit in peace negotiations and their continued bombing attacks on civilian targets have left them internationally isolated, but they patently remain capable of sustaining one of the world's longest terrorist wars at an intense level.

The rebels appear to have retained the allegiance of most of the tens of thousands of Jaffna Tamils, despite being ousted from the peninsula. This may be largely through intimidation, but it nevertheless undermines the Government's hopes of winning the hearts and minds of the Tamil majority.

Civilian Tamils who have been warming to government overtures to return home to

what are called "liberated areas" may think again now the Tigers have proved that they remain a potent force.

The military had been questioning the Tigers' ability to fight on, except with small hit-and-run attacks. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, the President, may regret her assertion that the war would be over by the end of next year, itself an extension of an earlier prediction that it would be over by spring this year. She is returning early to Sri Lanka from a private visit to London to deal with the crisis.

The Government said more than 300 Tigers had died in the battle for Mullaitivu base; the rebels last night admitted to 120 dead and claimed to have recovered the bodies of 300 government troops. They said the toll continued to rise because of fierce fighting around the camp perimeter.

The Tigers claimed last night that they would hand over the bodies of 500 government soldiers to the International Committee of the Red Cross today.



Millions flee from floods

Bangladeshis from the village of Kalna north of Dhaka prepare to abandon their homes with salvaged possessions yesterday after flooding along the Padma River. Floods have affected 2.2 million people across half

the country had been affected in the second round of flooding since early June. The spokesman put the official death toll in the most recent

inundations at six people.

Flooding has also hit China,

where rescue workers yester-

day airlifted hundreds of

tonnes of food and mineral

water to the city of Liuzhou

in Guangxi provin-

ce. (AFP/Reuters)

Unions in conflict with ANC over cuts

FROM R.W. JOHNSON
IN JOHANNESBURG

TENSION between the South African Government and trade unions over economic policy broke into the open over the weekend.

Sam Shilowa, head of the Confederation of South African Trade Unions, condemned the Government's policy as "unworkable". "Something has gone terribly wrong in South Africa if [such] a document could be put on the table," he said.

The Government's strategy document calls for a sharp reduction in the budget deficit from 6 per cent to 3 per cent of GDP, a ceiling on wage increases, the defence of the rand and the "restructuring" of state assets. It is still unclear who drew up this strikingly conservative plan: all the usual left-wing advisers and think-tanks were ignored, and rumour has it that British Treasury advice was influential.

The strategy was greeted with some warmth by business, but with an icy silence from the unions, which clearly felt constrained by loyalty to their ANC allies. It was hard to see how this could last: the plan means big spending cuts with large job losses, and the Government has now made it plain that "restructuring" means privatisation — to which the unions are flatly opposed.

But the problem goes deeper than that. The Government's Reconstruction and Development Plan — on which it fought the 1994 election — promising "jobs, jobs, jobs", was very much the work of the trade unions. Now, however, the plan exists only in name.

Attacking Trevor Manuel, the Finance Minister, by name for his "neo-liberal plan which poses serious difficulties for the working class and the country as a whole", Mr Shilowa argued bitterly that the ANC of pre-1994 days would never have come up with a plan of this nature. Such remarks denote a growing bitterness at the way the ANC's revolution has been expropriated by the new black middle class.

Burma is embraced by Asean nations

FROM A SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT
IN JAKARTA

BURMA has been welcomed into the Association of South-East Asian Nations with observer status, despite Western concern over its human rights record.

Foreign Ministers of Asean took the decision despite the junta's continued refusal to recognise the results of the 1991 elections and despite America's concern about Burma as a centre of the international drugs trade.

Burma's internal political situation was not on the agenda when the ministers met at the weekend despite calls by Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's pro-democracy leader, for sanctions to be imposed.

A statement from Manuel Marin, vice-president of the European Commission, said that closer links between Burma and Asean would "inevitably create considerable difficulties" for relations between the EU and Asean.

Ajit Singh, Asean's secretary-general, said: "The West and the media are going on a witch hunt as far as Myanmar [Burma] is concerned ... it is not an issue at all as far as Asean is concerned. If you isolate Myanmar you leave them with only one option: the China option."

All Alatas, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, added: "Asean knows there are problems in the country, but we think the best way to resolve them is not through, as some Western countries proposed, the application of sanctions or by isolating Myanmar. Rather we would try, as fellow South East Asians, to show our understanding and support for a peaceful reconciliation among the people of Myanmar."

Cambodia and Laos, which are already observers, are likely to be accepted as full members from the beginning of next year. Asean comprises Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Burma's state media hailed the decision as a step towards regional unity that had foiled the Government's critics.

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TIMES SPORT

MONDAY JULY 22 1996

LEHMAN HOLDS HIS NERVE TO WIN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP



Lehman raises his arms after making the putt which gave him a two-stroke victory in the Open Championship at Royal Lytham and St Annes yesterday. Reports and scoreboard, pages 26, 27. Photograph: Ian Stewart

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GOLF: AMERICAN ADMONISHES HIS FELLOW US PGA TOUR PROFESSIONALS FOR OPTING OUT OF OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING

Brooks's apprenticeship serves him well

By MEL WEBB

MARK BROOKS was in a strong position for a long time in this championship, and the fact that he faded out of contention in the last few holes hardly took the gloss off a second good Open in as many years. At least he made the effort.

Brooks has been one of two leading Americans to have criticised the decision by several of their peers not to play in this championship. He has a high regard for the traditions of the Open, and believes that no player's education is complete until he has played in what he, like most Americans, calls the British Open.

"I just think they're missing out on something special," he



THE OPEN

said after a round of 71 to finish joint fifth, making him one of the key figures on the last day of the tournament for the second year in succession — he finished tied for third at St Andrews last year.

"I can understand why guys stay away if they have to qualify. Our tour is pretty competitive now — players will need probably more than \$160,000 to qualify for a card in the top 125 next year, and in the past, earnings here have not been official prize-money on our tour."

"If guys are concentrating on getting their card, they have to take two, maybe three weeks off to acclimatise and try to qualify, and it's pretty expensive to come over here and try for one of 12 places on one of the qualifying courses. You can be out of the tournament by Monday night."

"But for the guys in the top 50 in the rankings it's not so easy to understand. It's quite a tournament, and I would never stay away if I was eligible to play."

Brooks, 35, is a personable Texan who has a high regard for the traditions of the championship and, with the exception of Royal St George's, in Kent, has played all the courses on the Open



Brooks, who kept his Open Championship challenge alive until the final few holes, follows his drive from the 5th tee at Lytham yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

rta. The fact that he hails from the Lone Star state helps him, he thinks, when he comes to take on the wind and the whins of Open courses.

"I was brought up to play in the wind, and I'm only sorry that it didn't blow a little harder this week. If it had, I think the field might have got a little more spread out, and I believe I would have had a better chance of winning. Having said that, I've had a good championship; I've enjoyed myself."

Brad Faxon did not have as good a championship as Brooks — he had a closing 75 to finish on one under par — but, in a way, that only makes him more qualified to pass some sort of judgment on the benefits to be gained from playing in Open Championships.

"This is the Olympics of

golf," he said. "This is the oldest and biggest championship we play. I do not know why guys who are exempt do not come over. This is real golf, and it is special to all of

us. Only 11 US Tour players entered the qualifying and only seven turned up. I'm embarrassed by this, and I'm not the only one. I don't think you should be allowed to play

in the Ryder Cup or the President's Cup [the match between the United States and the rest of the world in non-Ryder Cup years] if you don't come over when you're ex-

empt. I don't think you should win any prize-money anywhere else, either."

For the most part, Brooks's game swore evidence on his own behalf, showing a deft touch with the knock-down shots that are so necessary in British seaside golf like an honorary Scotsman. He was in the picture until well after he missed the green, then went into a greenside bunker at the 13th, where a little swerve on the green carried the ball away from the hole, leaving him to save par from eight feet.

The wheels started to work slightly loose, however, on the 11th, where he hit his fairway sand on the left. The first place you do not want to be off the drive here is on the left, and if you are in the bunker on that side, it makes things much tougher.

Still, he got out of the trap, but finished in the rough on the other side of the fairway. A sweetly-struck fairway wood got him out of jail, and two

putts earned him an unlikely par.

The vital part of his round was now approaching. The 12th and 13th represent just about the last good chances to gain shots before hitting the fiendishly difficult last five holes, and he lost his chance of a birdie on the short 12th when he missed the green, then went into a greenside bunker at the 13th, where a little swerve on the green carried the ball away from the hole, leaving him to save par from eight feet.

He closed on a low two, dropping shots at the last two holes. "I just picked the wrong club both times," he said. Still it did not put him off, and he will back for more at Royal Troon next year. If he has his way, there will be a few more Americans making the trip with him.

If they had been with him since the start — and it would have been a considerable declaration of faith on their part — they'd have seen him drop a shot on each of the first three holes, then double-bogey the 4th after three-putting from 12 feet.

And so he went on, taking 40 to the turn. It was not until he reached the 18th that he became a professional golfer again, instead of one who was merely playing for money.

From then on, he was steadiness itself. No shot was too much trouble, no putt unworthy of being stalked and thoroughly examined, with only a double-bogey hiccup, on the last, betraying him in a round of 77. It was quite a change, both in the quality of the golf and the way he was playing it. Compared with earlier, it was a total contradiction in terms; but then, so is the man himself.

Clarke and Stricker already awaiting their Open return

Patricia Davies on two players captivated by their experience of playing in the final round

DARREN CLARKE and Steve Stricker, two big brothers from opposite sides of the Atlantic, sampled the big time in the final round of the Open yesterday and after an afternoon on the fringes were eager for a more central role in years to come.

"I loved it," Clarke, a roly-poly, ebullient Ulsterman, who shared 11th place on 278, six under par, after a level par 71, said. Stricker, a lower-key fellow altogether, had the same appreciative gleam in his eye after their reception from the massed stands at the 18th. It was his first experience of an Open and he will be back for more at Royal Troon next year.

Stricker, a blond, lithe six-footer, looked dwarfed by Clarke, a 27-year-old of six foot two with the

comfortable build of an old-fashioned rugby forward. Starting at six under par, they were always likely to be playing in the non-Lehman version of the championship and there was no fast start to hurdle them into the thick of the fray.

The initials on their green golf bags were impressive, P.H.D. for the American, whose wife Nicki caddies for him, and VIP for the Ulsterman, who employs Billy Foster, a no-nonsense Yorkshireman who keeps Severiano Ballesteros more or less

under control for an impressive number of years, but the putts, mostly long, failed to drop.

Clarke and Stricker were sticking rather than straining and although they drew warm applause, the real action was elsewhere. Fred Couples, in the pair behind, was charging and there were patriotic screeches of encouragement for Nick Faldo.

Foster was doing his best to keep Clarke sensible, persuading his boss not to attack some wickedly teasing pins in a death or glory bid

to make a move and in the end it paid off, for the hero of Dungannon Golf Club already knows he has played his way into the field next year.

Out in 35, level par, Clarke dropped a shot at the 10th via one of Lytham's penal bunkers. But he then rolled home a birdie putt of ten feet at the 13th, nearly sank a 45 footer for a birdie three at the next, and moved to seven under par with a 12-foot birdie putt at the 15th.

It might have been a case of too little too late but it will help teach a young man impatient for success and the fruits thereof — the value of patience, and the refusal to give up or regard the job as finished until

the last putt is holed. Clarke bogeyed the last after hitting a bad two-iron into a bunker but he holed a good putt for his five and acclaimed the crowd with such an outgoing wave of his visor and his putter that there was no doubt this limelight was for him.

Stricker relished his applause, too and they will both be back again in years to come. Great things, like Open championship victories, are predicted for them, but they could not ask for a better tribute than the one offered, with no prompting at all, by the scorer who walked the dusty 18 holes with them. "Two of the nicest young men you could hope to meet," she said.

Elder statesmen revive golden memories of their days in sun

John Hopkins on a trio whose feats delighted generations

They came to the 18th with the relaxed air of men who have done it all. Let others strain every sinew to squeeze another stroke from the course. Bob Charles, Jack Nicklaus and Brian Barnes were enjoying themselves, concluding their respective rounds as Nick Faldo and Tom Lehman were beginning theirs. Charles gave a wave. Nicklaus removed his cap to acknowledge the ovation. Barnes holed a long putt, took off his visor and gave a theatrical bow.

Of the three men competing to be leading senior, only Charles has won an Open at Royal Lytham. "It was a stiffer test then," Charles said after his 73, his worst round of the week, put him seven over par. "That was my year, all right, 1963. It was not running quite so hard and last then as now. A links course is a different test in a wind. The great links courses only have their teeth in winds in excess of 15mph." He looked around.

"There has been no wind for three days and there's only a light breeze now."

Charles, 60, was a beautiful putter and his three putts on the 10th yesterday were his only three-putt of the week. "I preferred the small ball."

played in every major. I am very appreciative of the people's support and once or twice more I might play for that — but I would rather just play golf."

Barnes's last round was a 75, his highest of the week. He breathed a sigh of relief that he would not have to confront Lytham's bunkers any more. In an echo of criticisms by other players at tournaments earlier in the season, he said there was too much sand and that as a result a ball would not roll to the bottom of the bunker, which made getting out very difficult.

He looked forward to the British Seniors Open at Royal Portrush this week, having changed his original decision not to go. Barnes, 51, has enjoyed a marvellous year on the seniors' tour in the US, just as Charles, 60, did when he first became eligible.

It would not be possible to find two more enthusiastic spokesmen. Barnes cites the condition of the courses and the continual sunshine. "If it wasn't for the US Seniors' tour," Charles said, "I'd be shearing sheep, making hay, feeding animals. It has given me a new lease of life. I've probably got four more years on it before I stop."

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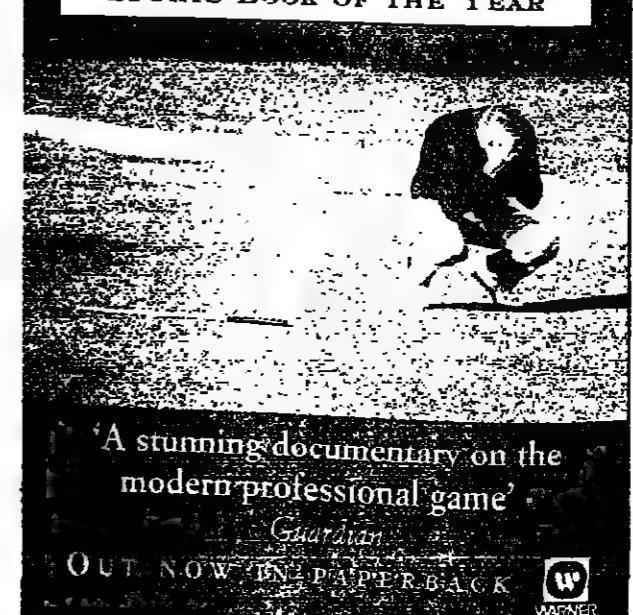
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SPORT 27

Daly grind
but former
champion
has crowd
in his thrall

GOLF: FALDO'S CHALLENGE FADES AS AMERICAN HOLDS OFF ALL-COMERS TO CLAIM POPULAR SUCCESS AT ROYAL LYTHAM AND ST ANNES

Lehman reaps rich reward for years of toil

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

WHEN Tom Lehman hoisted the claret jug over his sunburned face last night having become the first American professional to win an Open Championship at Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club, he earned the admiration of everyone in golf. "Wow," was his first word as a slow, almost shy smile spread over his features. "Wow."

Lehman is 37 and has had to work hard for everything that has come his way. Not so long ago, he was nearly broken down to his last few thousand dollars. He was playing on the mini-tours until 1993. He had surgery for cancer two years ago. Only last month, the US Open was dashed from his grasp at Oakland Hills, Detroit.

Now, though, Lehman has won the game's oldest championship. After a stunning display in his third round, when



THE OPEN

he set a new course record, he was more calculating and less inspired in his fourth as he faced challenges that seemed to come at him from all directions.

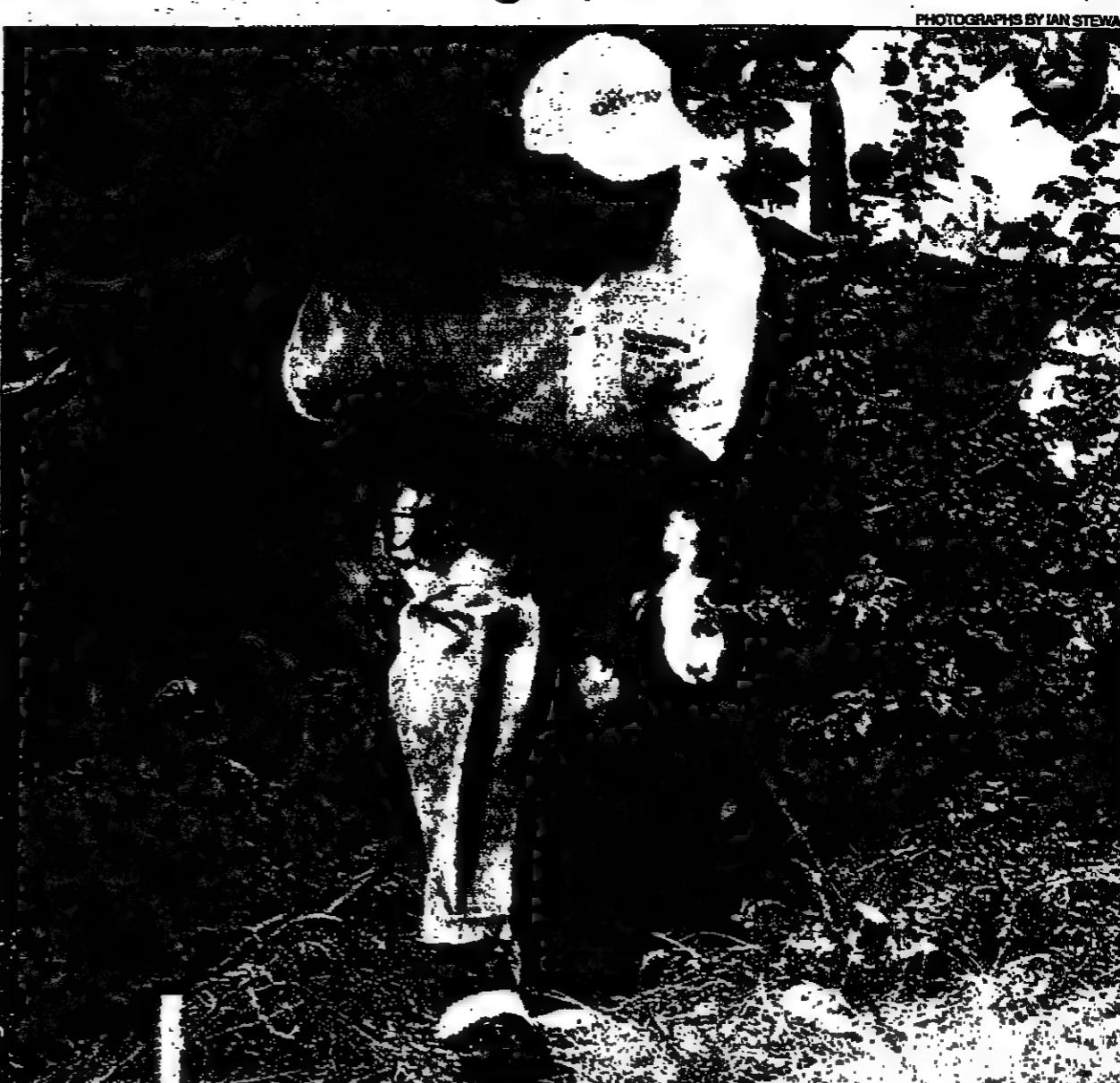
His performance throughout a testing afternoon bore out what Mark McCumber had said about him earlier: "Tom is tenacious. He is at peace with himself. If Tom holds to win, I think that players around the world will think that he is a deserving champion."

Lehman, whose father followed him every step of his last round, began the day with a six-stroke lead over Nick Faldo. He doggedly held off Ernie Els, McCumber, Faldo and, early in his round, Fred Couples and Mark Brooks. No one got closer to Lehman than two strokes and he won by two strokes. His fourth round of 71 and gave him a 72-hole total of 271, 13 under par.

Before Faldo and Lehman teed off, each did some last-minute putting. Faldo grabbed the shady position on the putting green and worked under the eyes of David



Faldo looks on in disgust yesterday as his championship chances fade while Lehman emerges from the bushes on the 6th hole, a rare detour from his route to victory



precisely the time he should not have done. After perhaps his best shot of the week, an eight iron to one yard on the 15th, he was 13 under par and two strokes behind Lehman, who still had five holes to go.

Els needed one more birdie, but instead he yanked an iron

from the 16th tee into a bunker and ran up a bogey. His drive was fine on the 17th, but he could not hole a 30-foot putt there and, under pressure, another wild drive, this time with a three wood, on the last meant he had dropped two strokes in three holes and was level with McCumber in second place.

On another bright, sunny and windless day, Tiger Woods won the silver medal for being the leading amateur because he was the only amateur to survive the cut. He will have learned a little more about competing on links courses.

John Daly, the defending

champion, ended with a 77, hardly the round of a man who was trying hard and this lame performance, which concluded with a six on the 72nd green, will be further evidence that Daly still has to shed his tendency to give up when not in contention.

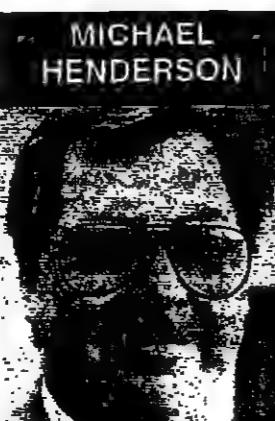
Daly is said to be considering acquiring his own plane, which would cost him up to \$3 million. Such a figure is beyond the comprehension of Gordon Law, a 30-year-old Scot, who was one of only two qualifiers to play all four rounds and whose 74 put him on 288, four over par. The other was Arnaud Lainguenken, of Belgium. Law is the club professional at Uphill golf club near Edinburgh and this Saturday he will be back there competing in a club pro-am. He does not harbour dreams of joining the European Tour. His ambitions are no higher than to look after the needs of his members.

Champion's epic journey ends on the crest of emotional wave

A zephyr came to Lytham yesterday, fanning many a heated brow, but Nick Faldo did not need the breeze to blow him round the last 18 holes of this magnificent Open Championship. The crowd, kindling an ambition that glowed no less brightly than his, booted him along with shouts of encouragement all the way to the final green where, at last, he had to bend his knee to a golfer whose own refusal to buckle.

So an American professional has finally won at Lytham, 70 years after Bobby Jones, the amateur, left his imprint on this soil. It was a triumph of perseverance, the sort that appealed to Tennyson: "Strong in will, to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

Lehman's journey may not have run as many miles as the mighty Ulysses but he has been buffeted by a few storms



At Royal Lytham and St Annes

in his time, and nobody can begrudge him the safe waters he found last night.

Faldo really shook him, make no mistake about that. At the start of the round, as Lehman waited to tee-off, the

Englishman kept him waiting for a good three minutes, as Viv Richards used to do on important occasions, as if to remind people just who they were waiting for, and what they could expect. Many sportsmen affect to play these "mind games". Faldo, as a big, blond Australian can confirm, is one of the few who really can intimidate opponents.

As he marched ahead from tee to green in those crucial opening holes, he walked with a purpose that suggested that he, and not the Minnesotan, was defending a six-stroke lead. The mood was something like a revivalist gathering as spectators hailed him as the one true leader. There were ocean breakers of applause, wave upon wave, as even the ordinary shots brought yells of encouragement.

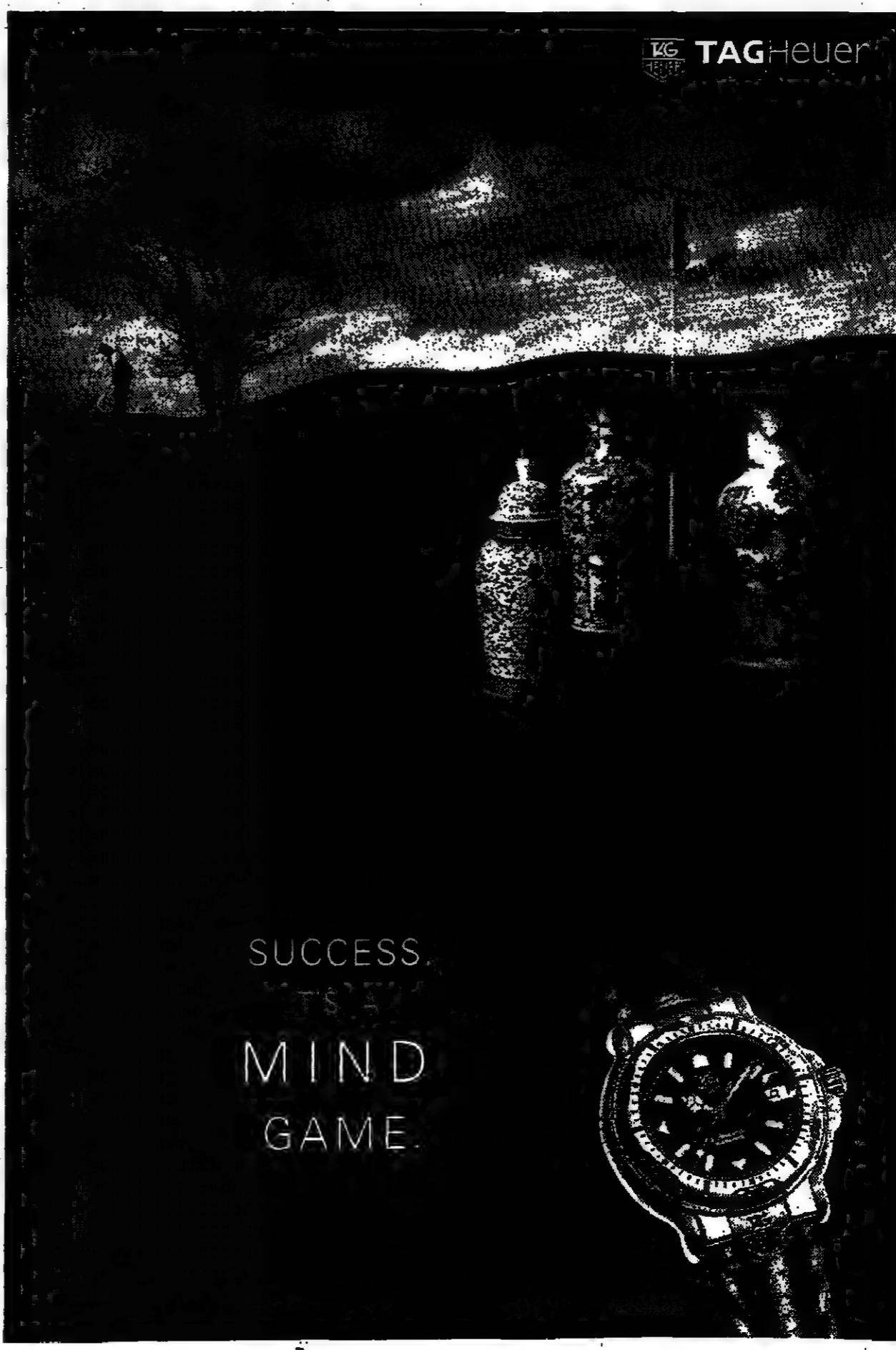
Alas, he was not up to it, missing a birdie chance on the 1st green and, after Lehman had bogeyed the 3rd to leave the bart door open to a hefty kick, missing puttable opportunities at three successive holes, two of them biting the lip. "I had the chance at five, six and seven," he said later, "and it was difficult to keep my confidence up after that."

Keeping up confidence has not come easily to Lehman. As recently as four years ago he was playing on mini-tours in the boudoirs and, though that is some way above being a municipal hacker, it is not the place to win major championships. Between 1985 and 1992 he played only four events on the PGA Tour so this is a result golfers everywhere will acclaim, because they can understand how hard Lehman has struggled to achieve it. More than most, this was a victory for Everyone.

He has struggled, too. Three times in the last two years he has had chances to win majors, faltering on the final hole at the 1994 Masters, and losing out in successive

	Royal Lytham and St Annes: Par 71 (6,882 yards)																						
	Under par		Over par		Outward nine - 35 (3,330 yards); Inward nine - 36 (3,552 yards)																		
Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
T Lehman	3	4	4	5	5	4	3	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	67	67	64	73	271
M McCumber	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	67	69	71	66	273
E Els	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	68	67	71	67	273
N Faldo	3	4	4	4	3	5	5	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	68	68	70	67	274
J Maccart	3	4	4	3	5	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	70	72	65	76	276
M Brooks	3	4	4	3	3	5	3	3	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	67	70	68	71	276
P Headlam	3	4	4	4	3	5	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	70	68	71	67	277
G Norman	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	71	68	71	67	277
G Turner	3	4	4	3	5	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	72	69	68	68	277
F Couples	3	4	4	3	5	4	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	67	70	69	71	277

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OLYMPIC GAMES: TRIUMPH MAY BE PRECURSOR TO FURTHER MEDAL SUCCESS FOR IRELAND'S FIRST OLYMPIC SWIMMING CHAMPION

Smith set to build on gold standard

FROM CRAIG LORD IN ATLANTA

THEY will no doubt be planning a homecoming to end them all for Michelle Smith far beyond the Pilton Still pub in Rathcoole, Dublin, but the party may have only just begun for Ireland's first Olympic swimming champion.

On the strength of her victory in the 400 metres medley in 4min 39.18sec, the eighth fastest ever, on Saturday, Smith, 26, is favoured to win further medals in the 400 metres freestyle, 200 metres butterfly and 200 metres medley and could turn out to be the swimmer of the Games.

"I'll take it one race at a time. It's very hot and humid, it's going to be hard to compete over seven days," she cautioned the herd of Irish

The Irishwoman's improvement since Barcelona is the stuff of legend: 26th in 1992 in 4min 58.94sec, she leapt to a 4:47.89 in winning the B, or consolation final, at the world championships in 1994, and to 4:42.81 in finishing second behind Egerszegi at the European championships last year, when she became Ireland's first European champion, with victories in both the 200 metres butterfly and 200 metres medley. And now, in Atlanta, she has cut her best to 4min 39.18sec.

Smith lives in Hardinxveld-Giesendaal, a village near Rotterdam, and is married to Erik de Bruin, the Dutch discus thrower with whom she trains and who is at present serving a suspension for steroid abuse.

Smith puts her new-found muscularity and strength (made all the more noticeable by her 5ft 3in height), down to hard work in the gym as well as the pool. During her final preparations for the Games, Smith raced in a local event in Florida and clocked 4min 08.64sec for 400 metres freestyle, the fastest time in the world this year.

Smith was initially barred from swimming that event in Atlanta because her time was set two days after the entry deadline had closed on July 5.

The Irish team management surmounted the problem by withdrawing their original entry and replacing her with a new name: Michelle Smith. Whatever her results amid the Coke signs and commercialism of these Games, Ireland's first female Olympic flag-bearer, at Barcelona in 1992, is already poised to capitalise on her Atlanta success.

Offered free, full-time training and a car by the Dutch Olympic Council if she became Dutch in 1994, she declined, though she has signed up with agent Frank Quinn, the man who handled Sean Kelly's lucrative professional cycling career.

journalists panning for another golden seal in their latest national treasure.

Smith's parents, Brian and Pat, who had to watch their daughter win two European titles on television at The Pilton last year after a mix-up over travel tickets had left them stranded, are here. They must surely have recognised their daughter. The black Aquablade suit she wore, with knee-length shorts reminiscent of the pre-War Olympics, was almost as impressive as her explosion off the block in the 400 metres medley. Smith's lead after the butterfly was three metres, a split of 1min 02.21sec just inside world record pace.

The defending champion, Kristina Egerszegi, of Hungary, world record-holder at 200 metres backstroke, caught and passed Smith on the



Smith raises her arms aloft in elation after powering to Ireland's first Olympic swimming gold medal

New champions overturn old order

FROM CRAIG LORD

MICHELLE SMITH was one of three winners on Saturday to become the first Olympic swimming champions from their respective countries.

Danyon Loader's effort swelled the short list of the famous from Timaru, New Zealand, and Frederik Deburghgraeve did the same for Belgium. Only Le Jingyi took part in the morning heats.

The final was about the race, not the time, though the Belgian missed his morning record by 0.05sec, to win in 1min 00.65sec. Jeremy Linn,

54.50sec was an Olympic record but was 0.49sec shy of her world record. Only two Chinese and two East Germans have swum faster than this for the title.

Deburghgraeve, 23, 34th at the last Olympic Games and European champion last year, set a world record of 1min 00.60sec, 0.35sec inside that of Karoly Gutler's 1993 standard, in the morning heats.

The final was about the race, not the time, though the Belgian missed his morning record by 0.05sec, to win in 1min 00.65sec. Jeremy Linn,

well down with 25 metres to go, had the 15,000-strong crowd on its feet as he closed on the world record holder, but his challenge was too late, though the American's time of 1min 00.77sec was the second fastest ever.

Loader, 21, trains in Dunedin with Duncan Lange, a man with a wisdom of coaching that took root in rugby more than four decades ago.

After winning the 200 metres freestyle in 1min 47.63sec, Loader said of Lange: "His simple strategy is 'swim fast', and that's just what I do."

Paul Palmer, of Britain, finished last in his first Olympic final after having to swim off for a place in the best eight.

He had finished in a dead heat at 1:49.05sec with Jani Sievinen, of Finland, the European champion. The swim-off produced a 1:48.89sec from both men and deadlock remained. Sievinen, a medal hope in the 400 metres individual medley last night, withdrew, unwilling to risk losing his better chance. Yesterday, however, he failed to make the final of his preferred event, finishing ninth.

The idea is that what the women of East Germany were to Cold War sport, the Chinese are to the present day: state-regulated druggers. The Chinese have countered strongly, Wei Jizhong, of their delegation, called the talk of drugs "ideological discrimination". Chinese swimmers, he said, were tested "1,000 per cent or more" often than the rest of the world. The secret is better selection, harder work, and a diet of turtle soup and fungus.

Meanwhile, swimming's governing body, FINA, has announced that if four or more swimmers test positive within 12 months, the entire nation is suspended for two years. No one is in any doubt whatsoever that this is aimed at the Chinese.

So why did the Chinese women do so badly? Ha. They came off the drugs, to avoid being caught by the tightest testing system ever, and are no good without. No, they deliberately threw the races, to draw suspicion away from China. Well, why did Le Win?

Because only the certain gold medals have been given the go-ahead to win.

No, no, no, it's nothing to do with that. It's to do with sex. Or at any rate gender. It is always the Chinese women who have excelled as athletes; China wants male athletes to

Meanwhile, back to Le. In victory she seemed reduced to half her size: a chit of a girl filled with perfectly scrubbed delight. "This is the most important day of my life," she said. "My wish is granted." In victory, the purest innocent.

Meanwhile, taking bronze, behind Le, was a 'lil' ol' Georgia gal named Angel Marano. It was a triumph for clean-cut American people everywhere. Only smudge on the story is that a few years back, Angel was caught doing some 'lil' ol' steroids herself.

Oh yes, but that's completely different, isn't it ...

Heyns's world record cuts short American joy

FROM CRAIG LORD

PENNY HEYN'S made her intention to become South Africa's first Olympic champion across all sports since 1952 as crystal clear as the water at the Georgia Tech pool yesterday morning, with a world record of 1min 07.02sec in the heats of the 100 metres breaststroke.

The capacity crowd of 15,000 had barely had time to catch its breath after cheering home Amanda Beard, the 14-year-old baby of the US team, ahead of world champion Samantha Riley in the heat before Heyns's. Beard led Riley, of Australia, 1:09.04 to 1:09.37sec and things were flowing the American way.

Heyns, 21, had other ideas, turning 0.45sec inside her own world record pace at 50 metres and three metres clear of the field. The crowd rose like a

Mexican wave in disbelief as the South African, who trains part of the year at the University of Nebraska, emerged from her turn. Her stroke appeared not to falter down the last length, and the world record put her two seconds ahead of the pack for the final.

The psychological blow dealt, Heyns, who had asked not to be considered for the role of flag-bearer for South Africa at the opening ceremony so that her form would not suffer, felt there was more to come. "It's great to get the record and I had intended to break it this morning but I can't say that's a perfect swim. There are things I can improve on."

South African sportswoman of the year in 1995, Heyns set her previous world record of 1min 07.40sec at the Olympic trials at Durban in March. That was all the more surprising

because she had been training in a 25-yard pool and had had little practice in an Olympic (50m) pool. "I've had three months of really hard training, with more long-course work, and it seems to be working," she said.

Heyns's was the second world record in two days at the pool, the first also at 100m breaststroke and set in the heats, by Frederik Deburghgraeve, the shaven-headed Belgian, on Saturday.

The Chinese had yet another neck, failing to make a final, but there was no mistaking that Franziska van Almsick, the 19-year-old star of the German team, had learned well the lessons of the past two years. At the world championships in 1994, the schoolgirl with DMSm in sponsorship had failed to make the final of the 200m freestyle. A team-mate

dropped out and Van Almsick went on to win her first and only world title in a world record of 1min 56.78sec. A year later in Vienna, she missed the final of the 200m at the European Championship and swam a faster time in the B final than it took to win the

There were no tactical ploys yesterday morning, just a fast swim of 1min 59.40sec, during which she displayed her awesome talent and a technical proficiency that translates into a swim-like progress across the surface of the water. No one else in the final has mastered the element quite so beautifully as the Berliner, whose every move is followed incessantly by a crew of 40 and more German media, many employed as "Franzi" correspondents.

Claudio Poll, the Costa Rican who was the only other

swimmer to swim faster than two minutes, lived up to the expectation that she will be the biggest danger to the German. But Karen Pickering, who holds the third fastest time in the world behind Poll and Van Almsick, in a short-course pool, failed to make the final, swimming little faster than she had four years ago. "I've felt heavy and a little tired," was her only real explanation.

Beyond that? "I really don't know," she slumped in resignation.

Better news for the British camp came from the men's 200m freestyle team of James Salter, Andrew Clayton, Mark Stevens and Paul Palmer. The quartet set themselves up as third fastest for the final with a British record of 1min 21.92sec, 0.65sec inside the team that finished sixth in Barcelona in 1992, and included Palmer.

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Not that I've been looking for escape. I love it, commercial gimmicks and all. It feels great to be a part of something so big, something engrossing the whole world. To be an Olympic athlete, though, to be one of the small cogs that make the wheel spin — that would be really special.

For me, being here has fulfilled a dream — since I was about seven years old I've always wanted to experience an Olympics. Yet today I don't feel euphoric. Excited, happy and a little nervous — yes. But

it doesn't feel quite right being here and not swimming. My dream is still incomplete. I'm on the wrong side of the fence and the grass is definitely greener on the other side.

Don't get me wrong, I wouldn't have missed this trip to Atlanta for the world. I knew it was going to be tough watching races that I could have been in, but I've accepted that this time I'm here as a

spectator. I hope that in the future I can use this experience as an advantage (actually, each day I feel a bit better as the thought creeps further forward). I'm here to take it all in so that in four years, when I might have another opportunity, I'll know what to expect.

What I am actually experiencing here is a far cry from what the athletes are experiencing. Sure, I'm soaking up

the razzmatazz; getting used to the patriotism, the hype and all those good things. But I have none of the pressure, none of the stress. I've avoided the three-hour wait for accreditation and I do not even have to queue for my food. You may think this is an advantage, but these things just remind me that I'm not competing. It's strange for me. I'm used to having a schedule to keep to at

a major competition, but this time I'm not thinking about getting the right food, sleep and physiotherapy.

The worst thing, though, is that I have nothing on which to focus. Now I'm looking at everything from a different angle — and what a wide angle that has to be.

I have been to a lot of major meets before, but never an Olympic Games. Even the Commonwealth Games, which were pretty spectacular and special for me, are nothing in comparison to Atlanta.

After watching the opening ceremony I was buzzing. I couldn't sleep. My emotions were mixed. I thought about what could have been and of what to expect in the next seven days.

The Olympic pool was disappointingly, the site is set in an industrial area of the city and is neither as green nor as clean as I had expected. But inside, with all its stalls and displays, everything felt right.

I climbed up the many steps of the spectators' stand and saw my first view of the pool.

My heart was thumping but it wasn't from the exertion — I just got emotional. I felt better when I spotted friends and familiar faces. I was very

happy at that moment, but I still had a lump in my throat.

China watcher confused by plot subtleties

A riddle inside a mystery inside an enigma.

That was Churchill on Russia. He never came up with a snappy epigram about the Chinese, and with good reason. To do justice to the endless strata of incomprehension that lie between the Chinese and the rest of us, you would need a sentence as long as the Molly Bloom soliloquy.

I should know. I lived in a Chinese village for four years and every layer of complexity I passed through showed me how many more there still were.

Put the poor old Chinese swimmers. Talk about a hiding to nothing. Le Jingyi took part in the 100 metres freestyle, and what a style, too, hands hacking the water like a couple of axes. Grace is for those who aren't fast enough.

Le won the gold, but then she would do, wouldn't she? Naturally, the rest of the world assumes she is on steroids, human growth hormone, rocket fuel, the lot. But then we lost the plot. Three of her colleagues, women who were expected to carry all before them in a Chinese human wave of swimming excellence, blew out.

They did so comprehensively. Shan Ying swam 1.5sec outside her best time a very long way in the 100 metres free, and went out in the heats. Chan Yen and Wu Yanan did even worse in the 400 metres individual medley, swimming 13 and 14 seconds slower than their best.

And so the riddle mills ground smaller and smaller, the conspiracy theorists probed deeper and deeper. It is all about drugs, yes but drugs as a symbol of a deeper and more profound incomprehension.

The idea is that what the women of East Germany were to Cold War sport, the Chinese are to the present day: state-regulated druggers. The Chinese have countered strongly, Wei Jizhong, of their delegation, called the talk of drugs "ideological discrimination". Chinese swimmers, he said, were tested "1,000 per cent or more" often than the rest of the world. The secret is better selection, harder work, and a diet of turtle soup and fungus.

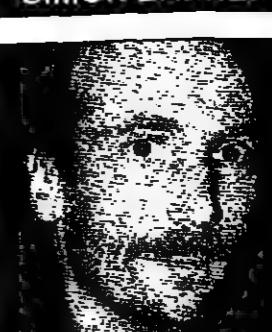
Meanwhile, swimming's governing body, FINA, has announced that if four or more swimmers test positive within 12 months, the entire nation is suspended for two years. No one is in any doubt whatsoever that this is aimed at the Chinese.

So why did the Chinese women do so badly? Ha. They came off the drugs, to avoid being caught by the tightest testing system ever, and are no good without. No, they deliberately threw the races, to draw suspicion away from China. Well, why did Le win?

Because only the certain gold medals have been given the go-ahead to win.

No, no, no, it's nothing to do with that. It's to do with sex. Or at any rate gender. It is always the Chinese women who have excelled as athletes; China wants male athletes to

SIMON BARNES



Atlanta sketch

do as well as the women, either to show the world how clean they are, or to re-establish the superiority of the male sex. And Zeng Qifiani finished seventh in the 100 metres final, which either proves it, or it doesn't.

We'd better have some figures in all this mess. Chinese women won four gold and five silver in Barcelona and 12 out of 16 possible golds at the world championships two years ago. The men won nothing. China has also had 19 positive drugs tests since 1991; the rest of the world had had 15 since testing began.

It is an odd fact of the tonal languages that to Western ears their speakers sound angry all the time. Zhou Ming, the China coach, certainly sounded pretty cross.

"They lost because they were inexperienced," he said. "They were very nervous. They have not adapted well to these surroundings."

And there was the problem of the fire alarm. The night before the 100 metres, the alarm went off in the Chinese camp for the third time since they had been there, and at 2am. "We are very angry about this," their interpreter, Yu Wenting, said.

"They swam badly, but it is understandable."

Yes, conspiracy theories work both ways. The following day, the incomprehensible woeful Chinese performances continued. In the 200 metres freestyle, Shan Ying and Chen Yen were each three seconds outside personal bests, and missed the final.

The pattern was set: Han Xue and Yuan Yuan both missed the final of the 100 metres breaststroke. It looks like disastrous failure. The villains of the Games have simply failed to show up. Who will wear the black hat now?

Meanwhile, back to Le. In victory she seemed reduced to half her size: a chit of a girl filled with perfectly scrubbed

OLYMPIC GAMES: REDGRAVE AND PINSENT MOVE SERENELY INTO THE SEMI-FINALS BUT STILL PINPOINT ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

MARC ASPLAND

Rowing duo find that travelling is easier by boat

FROM DAVID MILLER IN GAINESVILLE

AFTER only two days, the centennial Olympic Games are disintegrating amid rampant transport chaos. All sports, and the media worst of all, are affected. Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, Britain's foremost contenders for a gold medal, yesterday survived the organisational crisis to dominate their heat of the coxed pairs at Lake Lanier.

After experiencing repeated blunders during the past week in making the 50-mile journey from the Olympic village in Atlanta to this delightful little wooded provincial town, Redgrave and Pinsent yesterday asked the British Olympic Association to bring them by private car.

Only 30 hours after the gruelling heat of the opening ceremony, in which Redgrave was the flagbearer, they proceeded to row the fastest times of the three heats to the 500 and 1,000 metre marks. They were almost paddling at 27 strokes to the minute, coasting carefree, by the time they crossed the line ahead of Croatia.

"It's a right old shambles," Pinsent said, still pouring with perspiration in the 90F-plus temperatures nearly an hour after the race. "We've taken four years preparing for this, and we're not going to let somebody's organisation upset it."

They did not. It was a marvellously assured performance, the water glistening golden beneath the thickly treelined banks, the spectator stand packed at 9am.

Such perfectionists are the British pair, however, that they were afterwards expressing reservations about their rhythm in the early stages, never mind that by halfway they had buried Croatia.

Jürgen Grobler, the British coach, was equally cautious about the performance when looking towards the final on Saturday. "Australia and France today looked very good," Grobler said. "Last year [the world champion-



test about the transport, but little has improved.

Redgrave and Pinsent have suffered on trips to and from training, getting lost for two hours, being unable to return to the village because another rower had mislaid his accreditation, being taken past the village into central Atlanta on the return journey and then taking a further hour to find the way back. A press bus returned to base yesterday because the woman driver was scared of the freeway.

"There's usually no one you can complain to," Pinsent said. "It's usually the bus driver doing his best who doesn't know the route, or a teenage volunteer with a walkie-talkie trying to find out. One day there was a sit-in by 250 rowers waiting at the village for buses blocking the road. Extreme and selfish, maybe,

"If we knew [what was wrong] we wouldn't do it," he said. "It's so hard to get things right and sometimes the harder you try the more difficult it becomes. We know that France and Austria will be alongside us in the final and we need to be right on top of it."

He thought their performance yesterday to be physically at 98 per cent technically at about 75 per cent. "We'll need 95 to 100 for the final."

Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent rose above their opponents and transport chaos to progress directly to Thursday's semi-final of the coxed pairs with a comfortable first place yesterday, racing 27 at the finish.

Britain's defending Olympic champions were not overpleased with their performance. "We got a good result out of a bad row," said Redgrave. "We have to improve on that to win. The Australians and French are very strong."

The wind was different

Ali's spirit crowns arrival of Deep South on world stage

David Miller sees a ceremony drawing inspiration from two legendary figures

a spry 97, Leon Stukelj, of Yugoslavia, the oldest-living champion, from gymnastics in 1924.

To signify the fires of competition for the next 16 days, the flame must be lit. For three months, it has wound its way across the United States as the last carriers complete the journey to the stadium. Al Oerter, four-times discus champion and never once the favourite, to Evander Holyfield, son of Atlanta and heavyweight bronze medal-winner in 1984, who is joined by Voula Patoulidou, the Greek hurdles champion in Barcelona; then there is another half-lap by Janet Evans, darling of American swimming, who climbs a ramp to the lip of the stadium.

There, in silhouette against a violet sky, stands Ali, light-heavyweight Olympic champion of 1960, the most known, the most admired figure of a century of sport, for whom the heart aches in his present state of disablement. Still defiant and erect, he lights the priming fuse which flies up a wire to ignite a cauldron atop the stadium. The spirit of human endeavour, Ali's spirit, is alight in this city whose history has been shaped by civil war and civil rights.

The most poignant moments were yet to come in a ceremony at one moment all-American, the next a tribute to the 100-year history of the Games, and their founder, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, to their ancient Greek origins and to some of the legendary figures who helped to create the unique sporting event. There was also a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment, after six years of preparation.

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Spectators struggle to last the distance in Olympic marathon

Quentin Letts hopes Sydney 2000 makes its curtain-raiser shorter and sweeter

When President Clinton shed tears during the opening ceremony of the Atlanta Olympic Games, it was from emotion, not boredom, but the 4½-hour duration of the flag-waving spectacular was too long for many spectators.

Olympic officials yesterday conceded that there was possible "overkill" and the Sydney Games in 2000 are likely to have a shorter curtain-raiser. "This opening ceremony was far too bloody long," a British official said.

For all the fireworks and wizard choreography, some youngsters fell asleep and other members of the crowd left before the climax, when the secret star guest, Muhammad Ali, lit the Olympic flame. The ceremony ran half an hour over time and did not end until 12.45am — 5.45am for television viewers in Britain.

So extravagant were the opening dance scenes that the ceremony was already a good two hours old before even the start of the traditional parade of national teams. Only three members of the British track and field squad bothered to attend and there were several grumbles among the athletes who did take part and who had to wait in the adjacent

metres. Cracknell, who has been isolated from his team-mates, will be fit to race the repechage on Tuesday.

Coach Steve Gunn seemed happier than at Lucerne. "It is nice to see a race which reflects what you have been doing in training." The headwind was stronger by the time of the final sculling heats, no advantage to Britain's lightweight men's four and the men's and women's eights enter the Olympic stage today the two eights have the chance of achieving a final place if they can win their heats. Looking at the opposition, this would be a very tall order.

Longo puts experience to good use

FROM PETER BRYAN

THE women's 104-kilometre cycle road race, held in torrential rain on an eight-kilometre circuit at Buckhead, a fashionable suburb north of Atlanta, was won by Jeannie Longo, of France, a veteran of Olympic and world championships.

Longo, 37, who seemed undaunted by the foul conditions, made her decisive move in the last ten minutes coming home eight seconds clear of the Italian, Imelda Chiappa. Clara Hughes, of Canada, was third. A peloton reduced in number by a series of crashes on the greasy roads, crossed the line 52 seconds behind Longo.

The British trio, Caroline Alexander, Sarah Phillips and Marie Purvis, were well qualified to compete but Alexander failed to finish and her colleagues, although prominent from time to time, had no happy Olympic memories.

Longo, the world champion, took no part in the early pace-setting and avoided a crash involving six riders which took place before the rain became really heavy. She worked her way towards the front for the slight climb before the end of the second lap, after which she led at an average speed of 40mph.

The next 20 minutes produced a series of attacks, the most threatening being that of the Italian, Alessandra Cappellotto, who quickly established a lead of 12 seconds. The fire appeared to go out of some of her pursuers and she had an advantage of 33 seconds as conditions deteriorated, although Alexander was well placed when she went wide on a left-hand corner and lost control.

Cappellotto's dash for glory ended after 20 minutes of freedom when Longo broke away, with Chiappa and Hughes for company.

In typically attacking style, the Frenchwoman tried a solo dash on a climb, but was quickly hauled back by her two companions.

At the bell, with 30 seconds in hand over the peloton, Longo again escaped but it was her next and final attack which broke her opponents' spirit.

Korea teach Britain hard lesson

Great Britain 0
South Korea 5

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN

GREAT Britain's women were given an object lesson in teamwork by South Korea, who romped home with a 5-0 victory on Saturday night in the Olympic hockey tournament here.

The Koreans, who were fast and unrelenting, outclassed Britain in every department of play and could have won by a wider margin. Only a brave effort in goal by Hilary Rose and some reckless shooting by the Koreans prevented a heavier defeat.

The pressure exerted by the Korean forwards enabled them to force 13 short corners, three of which were converted. Britain, despite early enthusiasm of Fraser, Miller and Sixsmith, could not penetrate deep enough to force any of these awards.

However, the British defence, with Karen Brown conspicuous, stubbornly defended for 22 minutes before the Koreans opened the scoring with a goal from a short corner by the deep defender, Eun-Jung Choi.

In other matches of the round-robin series there were victories for Australia and Germany and an exciting 1-1 draw between Holland and the United States.

GERMANY (unassessed); K. Rose, K. Brown, T. Atkins (captain), K. Johnson, S. Fraser (Scot), P. Robertson (Scot), M. Davies, T. Miller, J. Sixsmith, R. Simpson (Scot), N. Neale, A. Cuthbert (Welsh), C. Oakey (Mond), A. Barnett (Eng). SOUTH KOREA: Je-Sook You, Eun-Kyung Choi, Eun-Jung Choi (captain), Jeon Chang-Jae, Lim Myung-Hwan, Kim Junghwan, Chang-Jae, Kim Young-Eun, Kyung Lee, Soo-Kyun Kwon, Eun-Young Lee, Cheon-Sook Kwon. Substitutes used: Young-Sun Jeon, Soon-Chae, A. Ruiz (Span), M. Lanning (Cana).

There were two surprises in the men's event. Germany, the defending champions, were unimpressive in losing 1-0 to Spain, who held on to the lead obtained by Xavier Arnau ten minutes into the second half from a short corner.

India, one of the fancied teams in Pool A, lost by the same score to Argentina. Pakistan defeated the United States 4-0 on a rain-soaked pitch with Kamran Ashraf, the centre forward, scoring two goals.

ACCORDING to Daley Thompson, real men don't do opening ceremonies. I dare say the same applies to real women ("the ladies"), as Andy Jamison, the BBC's swimming summariser, insists on calling them, but by 6am on Saturday I was past caring.

Looking back, the warning signs were there at the beginning. It was a few minutes past 1am and an extraordinary transformation had befallen Des Lyman. The BBC's Mr Cool was red in the face, sweating freely and gibbering like a man possessed. At the time I put it down to the proximity of Sharron Davies, clad as she was in something little bigger than her Gladiator's outfit. But now I know better. Des knew what lay ahead. As the public address system threatened to drown him out, you could see his knuckles whitening round his lollipop mike.

After exchanging pleasantries if that is what you call stories about

white hats and pigeon droppings, Lyman went straight into one of those brilliant musical montages of Olympic memories. For a long time it seemed as if we might be there for the duration. Round and round and — oh why not — round again came the moments of spine-tingling sporting history. By the time it finished I had Steve Redgrave down for 15 gold medals, not three.

But there was worse to come, much worse. At 2.09am, David Coleman uttered the 11 words that would haunt the rest of my waking hours: "The Olympic flame is the best part of two hours away." And do you know what? He was lying. When we next spotted that wretched candle, it wasn't just light outside — there were people on their way to work.

Really, I should have followed my instincts (the go-to-bed-you-fool ones) just as I did on Saturday night when, with Michelle Smith safely united

with a gold medal and the women's

lyman, team facing certain defeat against South Korea, I decided that the Dream Team would just have to slant-dunk without me.

That was night two. Night one of Olympic week zero saw me slant-dunk with Rose... and caffeine. We were... and indeed are... going to do the Atlanta Games live. High-

lights are for wimps. Stay with me and for the next few nights we'll explore the wee small hours (not to mention some wee small sports) together. As the newly air-conditioned and much happier-looking Lyman put it on Saturday night: "If you've got the stamina, so have we." Tell you what Des, you're on.

Actually, I quite like opening ceremonies — the good ones such as Barcelona are a joy to behold and the bad ones (Albertville 1992 takes a lot of beating) are a hoot. Good or bad, you can depend on Coleman to take it all very seriously. "And the Olympic spirit's call is answered," he announced solemnly during the promising opening hour.

Nothing, however, had prepared me for the purgatory of the athletes' procession. At 2.3am, I scribbled a note: "Afghanistan". It took ten minutes to get to Azerbaijan by the Cs. Coleman was worried about congestion on the pitch, at 4.38am I



Pinsent, left, and Redgrave take the strain on Lake Lanier, cruising almost effortlessly into the semi-final, which takes place on Thursday

Defending champions rise above chaos

FROM MIKE ROSEWELL,
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

STEVE REDGRAVE and Matthew Pinsent rose above their opponents and transport chaos to progress directly to Thursday's semi-final of the coxed pairs with a comfortable first place yesterday, racing 27 at the finish.

Britain's defending Olympic champions were not overpleased with their performance. "We got a good result out of a bad row," said Redgrave. "We have to improve on that to win. The Australians and French are very strong."

things for different races. You can only judge from the people in your heat," he said, obliquely referring to the beaten Croats and Poland.

Coach Steve Gunn seemed happier than at Lucerne. "It is nice to see a race which reflects what you have been doing in training." The headwind was stronger by the time of the final sculling heats, no advantage to Britain's lightweight men's four and the men's and women's eights enter the Olympic stage today the two eights have the chance of achieving a final place if they can win their heats. Looking at the opposition, this would be a very tall order.

Guin Batten, who was last at 500 metres but came through to finish fourth.

The saga of problems continued for the British men's double scull of Rob Thatcher and James Cracknell. The double were improving after Cracknell's mid-season illness, followed by injury to Thatcher on training camp, but Cracknell had to withdraw yesterday with flu symptoms and a slight temperature.

Guy Pooley replaced him but the untrained combination, with just one outing together on Saturday, finished 13th in spite of a brave first 500

metres. Cracknell, who has been isolated from his team-mates, will be fit to race the repechage on Tuesday.

Phillipa Cross and Kate Mackenzie found the pace as hot as the weather in the women's coxed pairs and never looked likely to achieve a top three placing in their heat. Four other British crews, the lightweight men's doubles, the lightweight men's four and the men's and women's eights enter the Olympic stage today the two eights have the chance of achieving a final place if they can win their heats. Looking at the opposition, this would be a very tall order.

Longo puts experience to good use

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Olympian effort sees off opening night marathon



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ATLANTA 96: THE COMPLETE GUIDE

HOT SPOT

All eyes will be on the swimming pool today when Alexander Popov, 24, of Russia, can confirm his reputation as the greatest sprint freestyle the world has seen. He has not been beaten in long-course racing at 50 or 100 metres since 1991, and success in Atlanta would make him the first man since Johnny "Tarzan" Weismuller in 1924 to retain the 100 metres title. TV: BBC1; from 12.25am

These Games will be the last leading judo event when fighters will all wear white suits. The Japanese, the inventors of the sport, who wanted to retain the traditional costume, have finally had to submit to pressure from European countries that the sport had to make itself more attractive to television. The Japanese had used their influence to persuade other continents to insist on all-white suits for world championships and other leading tournaments. They have even provided thousands of free white suits for third-world countries. A threat to introduce coloured kits for all leading European competitions from 1997 meant that the Japanese had either to bow to the inevitable or boycott the leading judo event. The final submission occurred when members of the International Judo Federation met Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee. Afterwards, Nobuyuki Sato, the former Japan coach, said: "Although I am a traditionalist, judo must continue to develop." JG

CHRIS BOARDMAN

Chris Boardman, home today having finished his first Tour de France in three starts, has indicated to Britain's Olympic officials that he will not be available for the Games Pro-Am road race at Atlanta next week. He will spend three days at his Hoyles home before flying to Tallahassee on Thursday. An opportunity to defend his 4,000 metres Olympic pursuit title this week has already been ruled out because the event comes so close to the end of the Tour. Boardman now plans to concentrate his preparation on the 52-kilometre road time-trial next week in which he expects to meet the world champion, Miguel Indurain, and many other recent Tour rivals. It was Boardman's private warning to the British Cycling Federation that he was having second thoughts about the Olympic road race that resulted in Chris Newton being named as the reserve. Newton is a member of Boardman's club, the North Wirral Velo, and had already been named for the 4,000 metres track team pursuit. PB

CHRIS BOARDMAN

Those members of the Great Britain sailing team who made the effort to go all the way up to Atlanta for the main opening ceremony may have wished they had not bothered. Savannah is a long way from Atlanta and it would be an exhausting return trip in any event. But because of an amazing failure of management, the hapless yachtsmen, on the eve of the most important competition of their lives, found themselves in a bus without air conditioning. The heat index – a combination of humidity and temperature – was reading 105 degrees. Because of security checks, they were not allowed to leave a half before they were set off. Five hours later they found themselves in the marinating area next to the main Olympic stadium in Atlanta where they waited for four hours, unable to hear anything and watching the action on a big screen. The sailors, who included Great Britain's medal hopes John Mericks and Ian Walker, finally got back to Savannah at 7.00am, without any sleep. EG

TODAY AT THE GAMES

Words by Jerry MacArthur, Peter Bryson and Steve

FENCING: Men's individual foil, preliminaries (16.00); final stages (22.00); women's individual foil, preliminaries (13.00); final stages (20.00).

BASEBALL: Round-robin: Australia v Holland (15.00); Nicaragua v Italy (20.00); United States v South Korea (01.00).

BASKETBALL: Men's preliminary round: Pool A: Costa Rica v USA (17.00); Argentina v Lithuania (01.00); Argentina v United States (03.00); Pool B: Brazil v Greece (15.00); South Korea v Puerto Rico (20.00); Yugoslavia v Australia (00.00).

BOXING: First round (featherweight and middle-weight; 16.30 and 01.00).

EQUESTRIANISM: Three-day event, team dressage (second day; 14.00 and 20.00).

ROWING: Men: Heats: lightweight double sculls (15.00); quadruple sculls (15.30); eights (16.40). Women: Heats: lightweight double sculls (14.30); quadruple sculls (15.30); eights (16.20).

GYMNASTICS: Men's team optionals (14.15, 17.30 and 21.30 – final session).

HOCKEY: Men's preliminary round: Pool A: Pakistan v Spain (14.00); Germany v India (22.30); United States v Argentina (01.00). Women's round-robin: Australia v Argentina (14.00); United States v South Korea (16.00).

JUDO: Men's under 66kg and women's under 65kg, preliminaries (14.30) and finals (20.00).

WATER POLO: Preliminary round: Pool A: Russia v Germany (16.00); Spain v Yugoslavia (17.40); Hungary v Holland (21.40). Pool B: Greece v Romania (20.00); Croatia v Italy (23.20); Ukraine v United States (03.00).

SOFTBALL: Round-robin: Australia v Taiwan (14.00); Japan v China (16.30); Puerto Rico v Canada (23.30); United States v Holland (02.00).

SHOOTING: Men: 10-metre air rifle, preliminaries (15.00) and final (18.00).

SWIMMING: Heats at 15.05 for evening finals. Finals: Men: 100m freestyle (00.59); 200m butterfly (01.39); Women: 400m freestyle (00.33); 100m backstroke (01.19); 4 x 100m freestyle relay (02.01).

VOLLEYBALL: Women's preliminary round: Pool A: China v South Korea (15.00); Ukraine v Japan (17.30);

WHEN TO WATCH ON TELEVISION

BBC1
7.0am Olympic Breakfast; 9.05am 12.35pm Olympic Grandstand; 1.40-3.35pm Olympic Grandstand; 10.20pm-4.30am Olympic Grandstand

BBC2
8.00-10.20pm Olympic Grandstand. Eurosport
24-hour coverage from 8am.

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THE TIMES
CRICKET
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CRICKET: YORKSHIRE SWEEP BACK TO TOP OF TABLE

Unsung Hartley left among also-rans by unfair benefit scheme

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

THOSE who share my way of thinking about the county benefit system — in short, that it is inequitable, invidious, probably immoral and quite possibly illegal — might have raised a wry smile over events at Harrogate on Saturday. In opposition, on this most agreeable of our grounds, were two players who epitomise the unjust extremes created by this demeaning method of rewarding loyalty; and it was the pauper of the system who beat the prince.

This was an important county championship match and it was the bowling of Peter Hartley that secured the victory which carried Yorkshire to the head of the table. This is Hartley's benefit year, his chance to put something by after a worthy but unglamorous career, yet he can expect to make a comparative pittance, certainly when set against the potential windfall of his counterpart on the losing Hampshire side, Robin Smith.

There is no blame attached to Smith for the hideous imbalance now evident among beneficiaries. It is not his fault, any more than it is the fault of Mike Gatting and Allan Lamb, both wallowing in the over-indulgence of a second benefit, that their profiles attract lavish corporate backing for funds that were never designed to be operated in such a way.

The more the game itself has changed, the more benefits have slipped their anchor, sacrificed their justification. Nowadays, the big money is made by those who already have it aplenty, which was not the point of the exercise nor a healthy situation at a time when the financial divisions between the leading players and the rest are already stark.

Benefits are now big business, their big events given a hard, celebrity-backed sell. The leading players regard £200,000 as a mere starting point and Smith will probably break the record this year. Meanwhile, the honest, reliable county player who has aspired to, but never attained, fame and fortune, loses out.

One might argue there are too

virtues include an enviable ability to stay fit, took his chance and was offered a contract for the next summer.

Ten years on, he may appear a misfit in a team of thrusting youngsters, but he is there on merit, the dependable foot soldier who takes up the attack after the commando raids of Darren Gough and Chris Silverwood. Hampshire were threatening to be difficult on Saturday, but Hartley ensured they went quietly, his five for 57 including a spell of three for five.

Victory inside three days swept Yorkshire into a 15-point lead and meant Leicestershire, who won in two days at Cheltenham, had enjoyed ascendancy for all of 24 hours — not nearly enough to satisfy the frustrated ambitions of another Yorkshireman, James Whitaker.

In his first year as the Leicestershire captain, Whitaker is turning plenty of admiring heads with his vital approach. If he was not quite as old as 34 he would be thought an alternative England captain; in truth, Whitaker has doubtless acknowledged such days have passed him by. He played his only Test, in Adelaide, ten years ago.

Surrey, meanwhile, stayed closely in touch in the title race by beating Sussex on Saturday, though only after a sixth-wicket stand of 164 between Bill Athey and Peter Moores. Essex, tenth but not yet without title prospects, need only another 119 to beat Nottinghamshire. They have, however, lost two wickets already in the last innings of an epic four-day game and will be pleased to see Graham Gooch back this morning after his early departure for England selection duties.

Then, of course, there is Warwickshire, not engaged in this round of fixtures but impressively polishing off the Pakistanis by way of warning to all those who believe them a spent force. They have the wherewithal to cope in a title race when others might wilt and their greater anxiety is the fitness of their fast bowlers. Perhaps they should never have let Hartley leave.

Brothers in arms: Mark Butcher, left, is close to Test selection while his brother, Graham, has become a fixture at Glamorgan

Fabulous Butcher boys hit high note

Ivo Tannant on the brothers perpetuating a formidable cricketing family dynasty

Mark Butcher, whose form this season has propelled him to the verge of the England side, was predestined to become a cricketer. So, too, was his younger brother, Gary. Their father was good enough to play Test cricket albeit in only one match, when he was transfixed by the advice of his opening partner, Geoffrey Boycott. An uncle played for Leicestershire and another for MCC.

Alan Butcher, who raised his sons while playing for Surrey and who now runs the Essex second XI, should have played more Test cricket than he did. He opened with Boycott on his home ground, the Oval, in 1979, but felt imprisoned at the crease after a welter of well-meant but inhibiting advice. His 34 runs in two innings against India were not sufficient to give him a winter tour.

By 1991 he had gone to Glamorgan and had become their captain. That July he returned to the Oval and had the pleasure — and the difficulty — of playing a Sunday

league match against his elder son, who was representing Surrey for the first time. "Mark Butcher made a spectacular debut, almost robbing his father's team of victory," Wissenden recorded. Coming in at No 7, he struck 48 off 36 balls and also opened the Surrey bowling.

He did not play in the county championship that year and although Wissenden continued to lavish praise on him ("Butcher looked an all-rounder of great promise") he was given only two championship matches in 1992. In the last 3½ years he has had no fewer than three groin operations as well as a pelvic injury this season. It has restricted him to bowling off spin rather than medium pace and has resulted in Surrey resting him on Sundays.

This makes Butcher's consistency this season all the more remarkable. "Mark has improved even

more than in the past and is now a top quality opening bat," Alec Stewart, his captain, said. "I would expect him to go on the A tour or possibly the full England trip this winter."

Only Michael Bevan and Graham Thorpe, his Surrey colleague, reached 1,000 runs before Butcher this season. He averages more than 60. Grahame Clinton, who has been taking legal advice after being dismissed as the Surrey coach, is given the credit for his improvement, as is his father. "Dad did not make big technical changes to my game but he told me to lean my head towards the bowler and if I am not playing well, I have to remember where my weight is," Butcher said.

Butcher's brother, Gary, who followed his father to Glamorgan,



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CRICKET

Pakistanis get a lift on the way to Lord's

By IVO TENNANT

CANTERBURY (second day of three): The Pakistanis need 269 runs to beat Kent.

IN THEIR last match before the Test series begins, the Pakistanis will have to bat considerably better than in their first innings if they are to beat Kent today. The pitch is firm, the weather set fair, but it would be a pointless exercise in speculation to predict whether this will come about. Estimating the actions of these most gifted and erratic cricketers is a task that even Sir Garfield Sobers does not attempt. Suffice to say there is no reason why they should not win.

The Pakistanis bowled their opponents out for 200 yesterday, a total in which no batsman reached 30. They caught their catches, retained their poise and looked the part. Kent, who only left out Hooper, their overseas player, and who, to judge by the championship table, are one of the best sides in the country, never had the measure of a four-man attack.

Wasim Akram bowled quite beautifully before tea, interspersing yorkers with balls that lifted from just short of a length and others that tempest the batsman into driving before swinging away late. Liqan, for one, could not detect the length of his bouncers, partly because they were not particularly short and skidded through. Ward did not pick up a ball that swung in late and had him leg-before, hitting him on his left toe.

Wasim made his customary bold start to the innings before he played down the wrong line to Aza-ur-Rehman. Fulton had his middle stump up-rooted by another yorker from Wasim and, when Shahid Nazir removed Cowdry straight after tea, Kent were 82 for four. There was no Hooper in the middle order to revive them. Indeed, there was soon no middle order at all.

The Pakistanis were as disciplined as they were eager. The last time they played here, four years ago, there was no sooner, their side was radically

altered just before the start with nobody being informed, substitutes came on and off at a bewildering rate and the public address announcer had a dreadful time. Such was the racket their supporters made, their drums were banned from the ground.

Now, there was not so much as one substitute fielder coming on until the final half-hour of play and no baleful moments at all. Saqlain Mushtaq, the off spinner, had a tidy spell, maintaining a full length after Ealham pulled him for six, eventually having him taken at silly point off a glove. The ball spun, one of the few that did. This pitch is more conducive to batting than these totals would suggest.

Liqan managed to make 29, three of his five fours coming off Saqlain, and this proved to be the top score. It was not, though, an innings he will remember fondly. Shahid, who had a telling spell after tea, had him taken at the wicket off an inside edge, driving with an abandon that suggested collecting runs while Wasim was out of the attack was the priority.

Wasim returned and bowled Marsh, who had just pulled him for six, as emphatic a shot as any played all day. McCague, attempting to hit over the top while yards down the pitch, was bowled by Saqlain, who took a third wicket when he had Headley caught at short leg and a fourth when Willis was caught at slip in the last over of the day. He has a good chance of playing at Lord's.

Earlier, the Pakistanis had lost their remaining five first-innings wicket for 120. Ealham took one of them, having Wasim caught at first slip when he went round the wicket and otherwise varying his pace and his length without signalling his intentions. Once Selim was leg-before to Patel, looking to sweep a ball of full length, Rashid Latif was the one batsman to make a score of note. His 61 included eight wristy fours and came off 34 balls.

Fleming made his customary bold start to the innings before he played down the wrong line to Aza-ur-Rehman. Fulton had his middle stump up-rooted by another yorker from Wasim and, when Shahid Nazir removed Cowdry straight after tea, Kent were 82 for four. There was no Hooper in the middle order to revive them. Indeed, there was soon no middle order at all.

The Pakistanis were as disciplined as they were eager. The last time they played here, four years ago, there was no sooner, their side was radically



Fleming, the Kent bowler, accepts a return catch from Shahid as the Pakistani first innings slithers into ignominy

Benjamin forced to run full course

By JACK BAILEY

HEADINGLEY (Yorkshire won toss): Yorkshire (4pts) beat Hampshire by seven wickets

WINSTON BENJAMIN is no stranger to controversy. Yesterday, it was not only his fearsome striking of the ball which brought him to the attention of a large crowd at Headingley. In spite of smashing Yorkshire's attack to all parts of the ground in an innings which brought him 62 runs from 57 balls, saw him hit two one-handed sixes and eight assorted fours, he did not apparently consider himself as fit as others, notably the umpires, felt he ought to be.

Michael Bevan has done

Yorkshire proud since arriving last year as their overseas player. Yesterday, he batted with none of the exciting

fray after ten overs of Yorkshire's innings. Paul Terry, one of the best fielders around, made as if to substitute, but the umpires having conferred, Benjamin returned to the field amid some confusion.

A case of no injury sustained in this match or no incapacitating injury at all? Possibly both; eventually, the game went on after Hampshire withdrew Terry. So did Benjamin and in the end Yorkshire completed a notable week which saw them rise to share top billing in the AXA Equity & Law League as well as take a clear lead in the championship. Both achievements came at the expense of Hampshire.

Michael Bevan has done

Yorkshire proud since arriving last year as their overseas player. Yesterday, he batted with none of the exciting

flamboyance of Benjamin, but pushed the score rapidly enough. He shared in a second-wicket partnership of 70 in 13 overs with Moxon, which set out Yorkshire's stall immaculately. He also kept his cool during a sticky period when Hampshire hemmed him in and he finally finished the match with a long straight six and a four to bring Yorkshire home with two wickets to spare.

Well led by Stephenson, by example as well as tactically, Yorkshire gave little away and Yorkshire were made to work hard for their runs until Bevan finally cut loose. If they could have capitalised better on a useful score during the last four overs of their innings, their score would have been beyond even Bevan.

Their 211 for eight owed

much to Benjamin's mercurial

innings, but solid contributions by Matthew Keech, Will Kendall, John Stephenson and Jason Laneey scored 29 of the first 48 runs; Stephenson did his bit by holding things together during the last 12 overs, although where he found the energy to open the bowling after a hectic, scampering partnership of 61 with Kendall is anyone's guess.

Kendall has been with Yorkshire for some time and he made a fine century in this year's University match. This was his first appearance for the first team, however. Coming in at 136 for three with only 12 overs left gave him no time to find his bearings, but what he lacked in brute strength he made up for in clever placement, and his running between the wickets was breathtaking in every sense.

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county champion

Esses v Nottinghamshire

NOTTS (third day of four): Essex, with eight second-overs wickets in hand, 199 runs to beat Nottinghamshire

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 172 (M Curnin 85 not out; A R C Fraser 4 for 31)

Second Innings

R J Morris c & b Taylor

P R Tuttell b Bowtell

Esses (b 3, 2, 1, n/o)

Total (22 overs)

Final of WICKETS: 1-10, 2-15, 3-6, 4-11, 5-12, 6-16, 7-187, 8-195, 9-212,

10-213, 11-218, 12-224, 13-230, 14-236, 15-242, 16-248, 17-254, 18-260, 19-266, 20-272, 21-278, 22-284, 23-290, 24-296, 25-298, 26-304, 27-310, 28-316, 29-322, 30-328, 31-334, 32-340, 33-346, 34-352, 35-358, 36-364, 37-370, 38-376, 39-382, 40-388, 41-394, 42-398, 43-404, 44-410, 45-416, 46-422, 47-428, 48-434, 49-440, 50-446, 51-452, 52-458, 53-464, 54-470, 55-476, 56-482, 57-488, 58-494, 59-500, 60-506, 61-512, 62-518, 63-524, 64-530, 65-536, 66-542, 67-548, 68-554, 69-560, 70-566, 71-572, 72-578, 73-584, 74-590, 75-596, 76-602, 77-608, 78-614, 79-620, 80-626, 81-632, 82-638, 83-644, 84-650, 85-656, 86-662, 87-668, 88-674, 89-680, 90-686, 91-692, 92-698, 93-704, 94-710, 95-716, 96-722, 97-728, 98-734, 99-740, 100-746, 101-752, 102-758, 103-764, 104-770, 105-776, 106-782, 107-788, 108-794, 109-800, 110-806, 111-812, 112-818, 113-824, 114-830, 115-836, 116-842, 117-848, 118-854, 119-860, 120-866, 121-872, 122-878, 123-884, 124-890, 125-896, 126-902, 127-908, 128-914, 129-920, 130-926, 131-932, 132-938, 133-944, 134-950, 135-956, 136-962, 137-968, 138-974, 139-980, 140-986, 141-992, 142-998, 143-1004, 144-1010, 145-1016, 146-1022, 147-1028, 148-1034, 149-1040, 150-1046, 151-1052, 152-1058, 153-1064, 154-1070, 155-1076, 156-1082, 157-1088, 158-1094, 159-1100, 160-1106, 161-1112, 162-1118, 163-1124, 164-1130, 165-1136, 166-1142, 167-1148, 168-1154, 169-1160, 170-1166, 171-1172, 172-1178, 173-1184, 174-1190, 175-1196, 176-1202, 177-1208, 178-1214, 179-1220, 180-1226, 181-1232, 182-1238, 183-1244, 184-1250, 185-1256, 186-1262, 187-1268, 188-1274, 189-1280, 190-1286, 191-1292, 192-1298, 193-1304, 194-1310, 195-1316, 196-1322, 197-1328, 198-1334, 199-1340, 200-1346, 201-1352, 202-1358, 203-1364, 204-1370, 205-1376, 206-1382, 207-1388, 208-1394, 209-1400, 210-1406, 211-1412, 212-1418, 213-1424, 214-1430, 215-1436, 216-1442, 217-1448, 218-1454, 219-1460, 220-1466, 221-1472, 222-1478, 223-1484, 224-1490, 225-1496, 226-1502, 227-1508, 228-1514, 229-1520, 230-1526, 231-1532, 232-1538, 233-1544, 234-1550, 235-1556, 236-1562, 237-1568, 238-1574, 239-1580, 240-1586, 241-1592, 242-1598, 243-1604, 244-1610, 245-1616, 246-1622, 247-1628, 248-1634, 249-1640, 250-1646, 251-1652, 252-1658, 253-1664, 254-1670, 255-1676, 256-1682, 257-1688, 258-1694, 259-1700, 260-1706, 261-1712, 262-1718, 263-1724, 264-1730, 265-1736, 266-1742, 267-1748, 268-1754, 269-1760, 270-1766, 271-1772, 272-1778, 273-1784, 274-1790, 275-1796, 276-1802, 277-1808, 278-1814, 279-1820, 280-1826, 281-1832, 282-1838, 283-1844, 284-1850, 285-1856, 286-1862, 287-1868, 288-1874, 289-1880, 290-1886, 291-1892, 292-1898, 293-1904, 294-1910, 295-1916, 296-1922, 297-1928, 298-1934, 299-1940, 300-1946, 301-1952, 302-1958, 303-1964, 304-1970, 305-1976, 306-1982, 307-1988, 308-1994, 309-2000, 310-2006, 311-2012, 312-2018, 313-2024, 314-2030, 315-2036, 316-2042, 317-2048, 318-2054, 319-2060, 320-2066, 321-2072, 322-2078, 323-2084, 324-2090, 325-2096, 326-2102, 327-2108, 328-2114, 329-2120, 330-2126, 331-2132, 332-2138, 333-2144, 334-2150, 335-2156, 336-2162, 337-2168, 338-2174, 339-2180, 340-2186, 341-2192, 342-2198, 343-2204, 344-2210, 345-2216, 346-2222, 347-2228, 348-2234, 349-2240, 350-2246, 351-2252, 352-2258, 353-2264, 354-2270, 355-2276, 356-2282, 357-2288, 358-2294, 359-2300, 360-2306, 361-2312, 362-2318, 363-2324, 364-2330, 365-2336, 366-2342, 367-2348, 368-2354, 369-2360, 370-2366, 371-2372, 372-2378, 373-2384, 374-2390, 375-2396, 376-2402, 377-2408, 378-2414, 379-2420, 380-2426, 381-2432, 382-2438, 383-2444, 384-2450, 385-2456, 386-2462, 387-2468, 388-2474, 389-2480, 390-2486, 391-2492, 392-2498, 393-2504, 394-2510, 395-2516, 396-2522, 397-2528, 398-2534, 399-2540, 400-2546, 401-2552, 402-2558, 403-2564, 404-2570, 405-2576, 406-2582, 407-2588, 408-2594, 409-2600, 410-2606, 411-2612, 412-2618, 413-2624, 414-2630, 415-2636, 416-2642, 417-2648, 418-2654, 419-2660, 420-2666, 421-2672, 422-2678, 423-2684, 424-2690, 425-2696, 426-2702, 427-2708, 428-2714, 429-2720, 430-2726, 431-2732, 432-2738, 433-2744, 434-2750, 435-2756, 436-2762, 437-2768, 438-2774, 439-2780, 440-2786, 441-2792, 442-2798, 443-2804, 444-2810, 445-2816, 446-2822, 447-2828, 448-2834, 449-2840, 450-2846, 451-2852, 452-2858, 453-2864, 454-2870, 455-2876, 456-2882, 457-2888, 458-2894, 459-2900, 460-2906, 461-2912

MONDAY JULY 22 1996
Speights century
puts Sussex in the driving seat

THE TIMES MONDAY JULY 22 1996

SPORT 35

TENNIS

Kafelnikov fails to pass Muster again

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THOMAS MUSTER successfully defended his Mercedes Open title in Stuttgart, defeating Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the French Open champion, of Russia, 6-2, 6-2, 6-4 in the final.

The top-seeded Austrian, playing on his favourite clay-court surface, put pressure on Kafelnikov from the start, breaking him in the fifth and seventh games of the first set.

Muster then took the second set with equal comfort and, although Kafelnikov offered more resistance in the final set, he eventually wrapped up the match in one hour 40 minutes for his 41st tournament success.

Muster had beaten Kafelnikov in their two previous encounters and Michael Commandeur, the Russian player's coach, said: "Yevgeny has far too much respect for Muster."

Michael Chang had to do double duty to reach the final of the Legg Mason Classic in Washington. The second seed won a rain-delayed quarter-final match on Saturday, beating seventh-seeded Paul Haarhuis of Holland, 6-4, 6-3.

The American returned in the evening to beat unseeded Kenneth Carlsen, of Denmark, 6-4, 6-3 and reach his fourth final of the year on the ATP Tour. "I needed this. I haven't had that much match play lately," said Chang.

In the final, Chang will meet Wayne Ferreira, the No 4 seed, of South Africa, who overcame Renzo Furlan, of Italy, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3.

Amy Frazier battled gusting winds and struggled past top-seeded Anke Huber 7-5, 6-7, 6-4 to reach the final of the A and P Tennis Classic in Mahwah, New Jersey. In the other semi-final Magdalene Maleeva, of Bulgaria, defeated Jane Chi 6-2, 6-2.

ROWING

Lightweight eights put on the style

BY A CORRESPONDENT

MANY of the British selected crews were competing at the national championships in Nottingham at the weekend as part of their preparation for the world championships in Stratclyde.

The men's lightweight eights won their event in style and then went on to beat the University of London narrowly in the open event. Both the selected women's coxless four and pair won their event with ease, and then competed in the eights, together with the reserve pair for Stratclyde.

They took an early lead, but could not shake off Marlow and Thames until the last 500 metres. The NCRA selected coxed four also won their event in style.

Two of the closest races of the day were in the junior eights event; a photo was required to separate Abingdon School and Bedford School, the latter getting the decision by 0.1 of a second. In the girls' event there was never more than half a length between Haberdashers, Monmouth and the Scottish Composite, who closed the gap to a quarter of a length at the finish, Kingston Grammar School taking the bronze.

Colin Greenaway, of Kingston, was one of the unluckiest rowers. An hour before his final in the single sculls an eight's boat blew off its rudder and severely damaged his boat. As he is off form it proved impossible to find him a substitute.

Results, page 39

Results, page 39

Riis keeps promise to end an era in Tour de France

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

JARNE RIIS sat down with his new team-mates last November and told them he was going to win the Tour de France. They believed him — which says more for the vision of the riders of Deutsche Telekom than most of the rest of the cycling world, for few tipped the big Dane as a possible heir to Miguel Indurain, the winner of the last five Tours. Evgeni Berzin, perhaps Alex Zulle, maybe Laurent Jalabert, a genuine contender surely. Riis? No, good but not that good.

Well, Riis was right and everybody else was wrong. It was he who carried the yellow jersey up the Champs-Elysées yesterday and it was he who ended the reign of the great Spaniard, who had dominated the race since 1991. Most important of all, he won in style, dominating the race if not from start to finish, then from the moment the going got rough in the Alps until the

decisive stages through the Pyrenees were complete.

"Since joining us, he has been telling us that his goal was to win the Tour," the Telekom team director, Walter Godekrot, said yesterday.

"He wanted to know if the guys would be strong enough to support him and I told him, that if he behaved as a leader, they would do their utmost to help him. That's exactly what happened." Thus, after 11 years in the professional ranks and at the age of 32, Riis became the oldest winner of the race since Joop Zoetemelk, of Holland, who was 33 when he won it in 1980.

He took things easy yesterday, the hard work long since done, including two brilliant stage wins in the mountains, one at Sestriere and the other at Lourdes-Hautacam, and it was the Italian sprinter, Fabio Baldato, who took the line honours in Paris, beating Frédéric Montassier, of

France, in a sprint finish. Erik Zabel, of Germany, a team-mate of Riis, already confirmed as the winner of the points classification, was close behind in fifth.

In second place overall was Jan Ullrich, of Germany, yet another Telekom rider, who, at the age of 22, looks a certain overall winner in the future, his potential confirmed with a blistering time-trial win from Bordeaux to Saint-Emilion on Saturday, a performance that overshadowed even Indurain, for years the time-trialist supreme, and for a time threatened Riis's lead. In third place was Richard Virenque, of France, who also claimed the King of the Mountains title for the third year in a row.

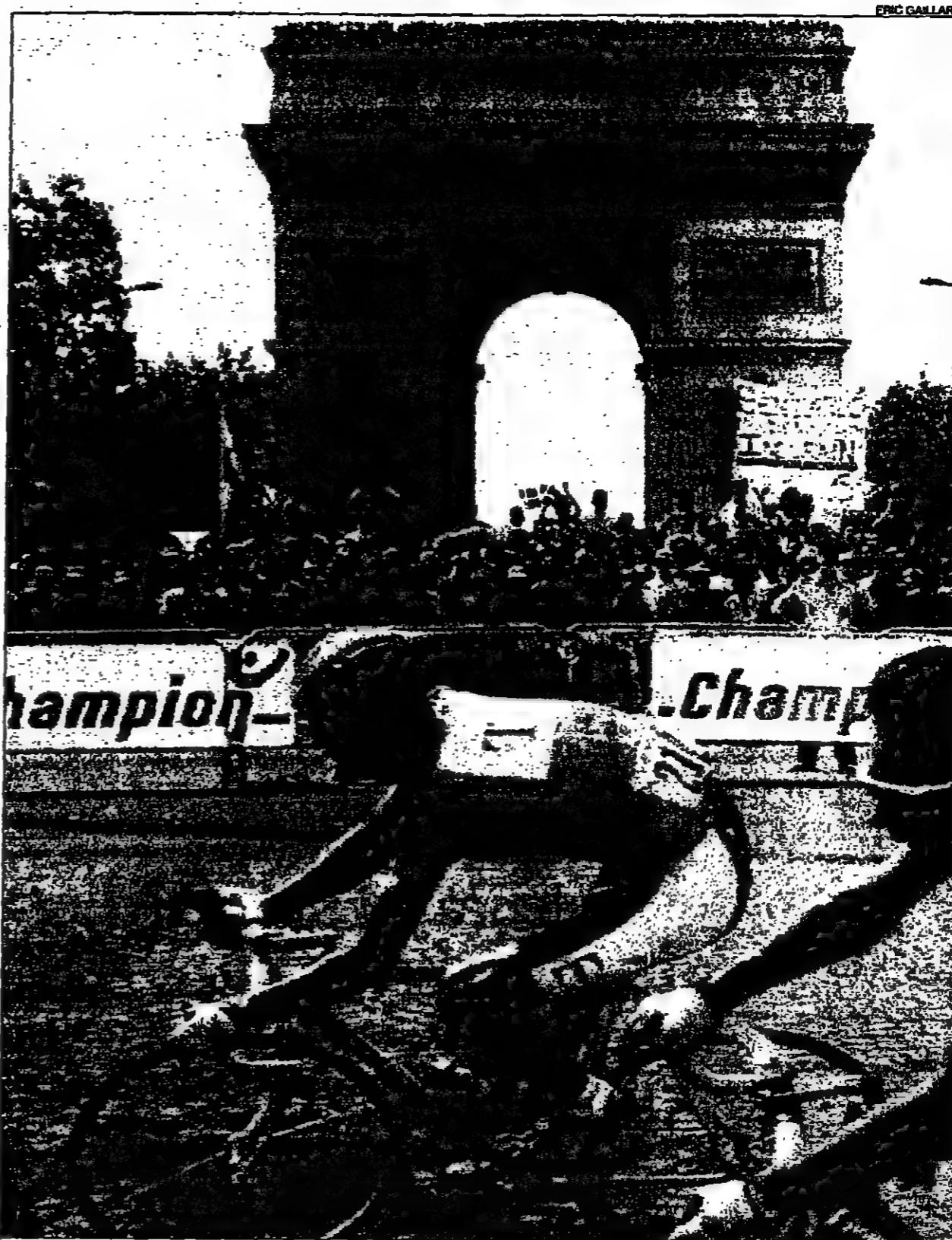
Far behind, in 39th place, was an exhausted Chris Boardman, nearly 1½ hours behind Riis. He had hoped to reach the top 20, but a virus hampered him and, in the end, he was relieved merely to make Paris. Max Sciandri, the other Briton to start the race, failed to do even that.

"I reckon I was only about 30 per cent fitness on the start line and yet the Tour has not beaten me," Boardman said. For him, as for Riis, Indurain et al., the Olympic Games beckon. "The Olympics is a totally different event, a one-hour time-trial as opposed to a 4,000-kilometre marathon. I would not say I am not looking forward to it, but I must have a good chance."

The last word, however, belonged to Riis. "This is the best day in my career, I'm so happy. There were so many Danes here, it was just unbelievable." For a man of few words such as Riis, that was a yell of exhaustion.

TOUR DETAILS

TWENTIETH STAGE (80km, time-trial, Bordeaux to Saint-Emilion) 1. Ulrich (Ger, Deutsche Telekom) 1h 55m 31sec; 2. M. Sciandri (It, Lampre) at 56sec; 3. A. Olan (Sp, Mapei) at 58sec; 4. D. Virenque (Fr, Ag2r) at 59sec; 5. C. Boardman (GB, Motorola) at 59sec; 6. F. Baldato (It, MG Technogym) at 59sec; 7. J. Ullrich (Ger, Telekom) at 59sec; 8. F. Berzin (Rus, Gazprom) at 59sec; 9. E. Zabel (Ger, Telekom) at 59sec; 10. L. Brochard (Fr, Festina) at 59sec; 11. P. Luttenberger (Aust, Weinmann) at 59sec; 12. P. Jonker (Aus, Ozco) at 59sec; 13. V. Voeckler (Fra, Ag2r) at 59sec; 14. L. Lablanc (Fr, Poit) at 59sec; 15. M. Leir (Sp, Sastur) at 59sec; 16. P. Ugrumov (Lat, Riga) at 59sec; 17. M. Goss (Sp, Once) at 59sec; 18. U. Boos (Den, Team CSC) at 59sec; 19. B. Hamburger (Den, Tiv) at 59sec; 20. F. Escart (Sp, Katusha) at 59sec. Final stage (140km, Paris to Champs-Elysées) 1. J. Ullrich (Ger, Telekom) at 2:47. 2. J. Riis (Den, Team CSC) at 2:47. 3. E. Zabel (Ger, Telekom) at 2:47; 4. F. Baldato (It, MG Technogym) at 2:47; 5. C. Boardman (GB, Motorola) at 2:47; 6. M. Sciandri (It, Lampre) at 2:47; 7. D. Virenque (Fr, Ag2r) at 2:47; 8. A. Olan (Sp, Mapei) at 2:47; 9. J. Ullrich (Ger, Telekom) at 2:47; 10. P. Luttenberger (Aust, Weinmann) at 2:47; 11. P. Jonker (Aus, Ozco) at 2:47; 12. L. Lablanc (Fr, Poit) at 2:47; 13. M. Leir (Sp, Sastur) at 2:47; 14. P. Ugrumov (Lat, Riga) at 2:47; 15. M. Goss (Sp, Once) at 2:47; 16. U. Boos (Den, Team CSC) at 2:47; 17. B. Hamburger (Den, Tiv) at 2:47; 18. F. Escart (Sp, Katusha) at 2:47; 19. C. Boardman (GB, Motorola) at 2:47; 20. J. Riis (Den, Team CSC) at 2:47.



Riis, resplendent in his yellow jersey, passes the Arc de Triomphe on the approach to the finish yesterday

Capital view of a riotous roadshow's triumphant finish

Clement Freud samples the mood in Paris as a famous race enters the home straight

THE loudspeaker, above where I sat in seat 496, tribune one on the Champs-Elysées, blared out a recording of Johnny Hallyday singing 'Don't Forget Me'; a commentator of daunting fluency gave us the names and positions of more than 100 riders. Coca-Cola girls gave away cans of their products and a large television screen only slightly obscured by a plethora of French flags, depicted the contestants of the Tour de France sitting rigidly on their bikes while the countryside flashed by.

The 21st and final day of the Tour turns the centre of Paris into a festive zone reminiscent of the centre of London at a royal wedding; traffic is stopped, seating for tens of thousands is erected and irrespective of whether cycling holds a large, small, or medium-sized place in the citizens' life, they attend. Clothes are unimportant, espe-

cially with the thermometer showing 30°C, loose shirts, sandals and plastic carriers of mineral water and smoked ham baguettes as well yesterday's newspaper showing the route and approximate times of arrival is all that is needed.

Three weeks ago, the world knew that Miguel Indurain, of Pamplona in Spain, winner of the Tour for five successive years, would win again. Indurain has never won a stage but tends to come first in time-trials and hang on. He is a defender rather than an attacker. This year the heavy rains during the first week, the multifarious accidents and retirements added to the fact that the time-trial was up a mountain, caused the favourite's inability to get himself into the swing of the race. When they reached the Alps, he cracked; rode on as becomes a good professional, but visibly weakened.

My ticket, sent by Eurosport, the satellite channel covering this event, suggested arrival by 2.30pm. At that time the cyclists were still 40 kilometres short of Versailles but

as they approached and the crowd thickened, the dignitaries — including the renowned French Olympic ski champion, Jean-Claude Killy, and two girls who wore not much more than our streaker at Wimbledon this year, occupied the platform of honour and held our attention.

On the big screen we saw the peloton in the same shot as the Eiffel Tower and then, after half the crowd jumped to their feet as the other half shouted "Sit down", came a pair of motorcyclists dressed in bright yellow and behind them the parade of ambulances, fire trucks, Coca-Cola dispensers followed by sponsors' vans: Agricel, who produce frozen vegetables, then three each of

Clement glazed chestnuts, Vélo magazine, Maison de Café, Vévéniens Enfants and for some reason which escapes many, Police Recruitment.

Five Festina watch vehicles were next, then 25 Tour de France transporters which nightly shift a thousand tons of plating, tribunes and promotional impedimenta from one location to the next, 20 police cars and suddenly, four cyclists. We cheered. We could not see who they were, cheered them.

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roofoffice followed by a Dermaspray van involved in a private race with a Credit Lyonnais station wagon.

Four minutes later the whole shooting match returned; having driven and ridden around the Arc de Triomphe, they flashed past making for the Place de la Concorde on the second of several circuits which enabled cameramen to show stunning pictures of the Bastille, the Rue de Rivoli, Place du Chatelet, the Louvre et al.

Across the road from where I sat a thousand or more recently arrived Danes cheered their yellow-jerseyed man and waved red and white flags. I kept my eye focused upon these good people for in the seats beside me a woman of what Parisians call "a certain age" cooed and purred with her lover.

I'm not sure whether Johnny Hallyday sang 'Paris Tu N'as Pas Change... but it has not.

CRICKET: SURREY ALL-ROUNDER ADDS TO GLOWING REPUTATION

BY RUPERT COX

IN FOOTBALL parlance, it is often said that losing a semi-final is harder to come to terms with than failing at the final hurdle. For zealous young cricketers representing their country at under-19 level, the pitfalls can be similarly equated: the appetite and ambition have been whetted for future recognition, but the ultimate objective remains distant. The real test is yet to come, and inevitably some will fall, forgotten, by the wayside.

There is, of course, little doubt that there is a vast gulf between under-19 cricket and the first-class game, but 19 players have graduated

from the England under-19 team to secure full international honours — Ronnie Irani, the Essex all-rounder, being the latest — and more will follow.

On Saturday, though, this year's crop of England under-19s, in fearless fashion, crumbled to a 29-run defeat at the hands of their New Zealand counterparts, notwithstanding another blameless Trent Bridge pitch. The NatWest one-day international series, therefore, is shared 1-1 after England's scrambled two-wicket victory on Thursday, at Chester-le-Street.

Over recent years there has been a dearth of quality all-rounders throughout the English game, as the shadow of Ian Botham still lingers ominously. However, the portents for a successor after the two youth internationals look favourable.

Andrew Flintoff and Alex Morris, the England Under-19 captain, are combative and talented all-rounders, but it is Ben Hollioake, the precocious 18-year-old, who catches the eye. Brother of the Surrey vice-captain, Adam, Hollioake has already made an propitious impression at the Oval, obtaining four for 74 on his first-class debut at Middlesbrough.

His three for 35 at Chester-le-Street, obtained with a springy action that produces deceptive pace, pegged back the New Zealanders, and at Nottingham, he added two more top-order batsmen to his

bowling credentials. "At this stage Ben is a better bowler than, say, Irani; he's very mature for his age," Graham Saville, the England Under-19 manager, said.

Hollioake's flamboyant contributions with the bat are equally laudable, clearly illustrated during an inspired partnership of 77 in just eight overs with Morris in the first international.

However, with the first of three youth Tests starting at Old Trafford on August 1, England, lacking the injured pace duo of Alex Tudor and Paul Hutchinson, will have to be at their best to overcome a New Zealand team that prevailed in Australia last winter.

ENGLAND yesterday began their campaign for the world junior men's team championship with a 3-0 win over Canada, in qualifying Pool B, that provided them with just the sort of work-out they need if they are to succeed in a field of 29 nations, boasting wider talents than the event has ever seen.

The England victory hinged on a sharp, third-string performance from Adrian Grant, who defeated Peter Yik, 10-9, 9-2, 9-3, in just 59 minutes; and an iron-nerved return from Lee Beachill, who defeated Shahier Razik, 9-4, 9-6, 9-1.

Beachill spent the first week

separate accommodation from the England squad, so he could concentrate exclusively on the individual title, for which he was second seed, but from which he was ejected by the rumbustious Egyptian No 2, Karim El Mistikai, in the quarter-final.

"Lee had a couple of bad days on his own after that," David Pearson, the England team manager, said. "But he has rejoined us and did the job against Canada well enough to suggest he is ready to approach an increasingly difficult first-string role."

However, the 16-year-old John Russell struggled against Doug Parent and was lucky to

escape 9-7, 10-9, 3-9, 6-9, 9-7 in the 68-minute second-string rubber. "We have Malaysia and Australia still to come in this year," Pearson added.

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SQUASH

England cut victory dash

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN CAIRO

Over the last two days, the English team has been in a state of flux. The first day, the team manager, David Pearson, had to make a difficult decision. He had to leave the team to take care of his wife, who had been admitted to hospital. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The second day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The third day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The fourth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The fifth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The sixth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The seventh day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The eighth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The ninth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The tenth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The eleventh day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The twelfth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The thirteenth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The fourteenth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of his deputy, Colin McQuillan. The fifteenth day, Pearson returned to the team, but he had to leave again to take care of his wife. The team was left in the care of

Lancing look to Vail for inspiration

By JOHN CASSY

SELECTION to represent England at the world junior squash championships in Cairo last week represented more than just a personal triumph for Lancing College's Tim Vail. While staff at the West Sussex college were delighted at the 15-year-old's call-up, they are hopeful that his achievement will inspire the next generation of Lancing pupils to a return to the dominance the college held over schools' squash in the 1950s and 1960s.

During that time, visiting players knew they were in for an uphill battle, even before they began the steep ascent of the college's drive to the spectacular position it com-

mands on the South Downs overlooking the sea. A succession of powerful teams and junior internationals, most notably Roy Wilson, who went on to win the world amateur championship in 1954 and 1956, made squash on Lancing's stone-floored courts an away fixture to be feared.

The college has dominated on a regional level since then, but Graham Stevenson, the present coach, believes it has been Vail's enthusiasm and dedication towards Lancing squash that has put the college on the verge of a return to national success.

"Tim has begun a renaissance of squash at Lancing," Stevenson said. "The younger players all look up to him and queue up to go on court to be 'marmalised' by him. Other players in Tim's position might not bother to do that, but he loves to play the game, and to get

the youngsters running all over the court. He's a wonderful motivator, with a great sense of humour, and as a coach it will be invaluable to me to feed Tim's example to future Lancing players."

Vail arrived from Hastings on a sports scholarship in 1991, and seldom can a bursary have been better spent. The individual pedigree of the one-time Under-10 England No 1 was never in doubt, but his overall contribution has exceeded all expectations. Five years on, Vail is now a qualified coach who will provide vital assistance to Stevenson in the running of the residential squash courses the college hosts in the summer holidays.

In October, he will take up a place at Birmingham University to read commerce and Spanish. Yet Vail's path to international competition has not been an entirely smooth one. Just two years ago, he was on the verge of packing up the game he has played since he was five after first picking up a racket while watching one of his father's regular Saturday morning games. A failure to grow space physically with his peers had brought some depressing defeats against bigger, but usually less skilful, players.

"Until I was about 16 or 17, I wasn't very big," Vail said. "I'd just get hacked off court. It was depressing and I seriously thought about giving up, but my county coach pleaded with me. I persevered and it has paid off." His physical growth over the last 18 months, improved fitness and an impressive performance in the British Under-19 championship in April have renewed his confidence, and there was no disgrace in losing to Ahmed Faizy, of Egypt, the top seed, in the third round in Cairo.

Mark Palmer, the head of squash at Lancing, said: "We have already attracted some talented youngsters because of Tim's success, including George Webster, England's top rated player at under-14 level. In fact, our under-14 squad must be one of the most powerful in the country."

Moore attends King Edward VI, an independent day school in Southampton founded in the 16th century. Last week, when their under-15 XI played Henry Beaufort in the Gawthorpe Cup, he

struck 15 sixes and 14 fours in his innings of 183, which took his tally for the term to 877. His team won this 25-over match by 148 runs.

"I would imagine Hampshire have their eye on Robert," Roger Sampson, his cricket master, said. Moore, a right-handed batsman who opens or goes in at No 3, played two matches for the school's first XI during the term, scoring 97 against a South Africa under-17 touring side, and then 12. "I would like to become a professional sportsman," he said. "David Gower is the cricketer I most admire but what I would really like is to be a golfer."

Sampson stresses that Henry Beaufort, a state school in Win-

chester, fielded a weakened XI due to end-of-term activities, yet he regards Moore, the son of a former Hampshire squash captain, as "the best technical schoolboy batsman I have seen in my career as a teacher". On Saturday, Moore made 104 for Hampshire under-15s against Wiltshire under-15s. He will not be moving far from the cricket grounds of southern England these holidays.

"Robert plays very straight and with time to spare," Sampson said. "He is a very tall, athletic lad — I call him Errol Flynn. He can also bowl medium pace and, as well as excelling at sport, is university material." Other than in the Lord's Taverners competition, King

Photograph: Michael Scates

Celebrated name living up to expectations

By IVO TENNANT

TO BE christened Robert Moore is akin to being bestowed the initials of MCC or to be named Neil Harvey Fairbairn. Expectations are aroused if the boy takes up sport. Such expectations abound when, at the age of 15, he scores 183 runs from 23 overs for his school, plays golf off a handicap of nine and captains the South of England hockey team in his representative group.

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Poborsky to complete move at last

MANCHESTER United have won the race to sign Karel Poborsky of the Czech Republic. Agreement was reached with Slavia Prague after United had refused to increase a £3.5 million offer for the 24-year-old midfield player.

Poborsky will have a medical this week and, if he passes, will then sign a four-year deal thought to be worth £2 million. United will now try to get his work permit through before the season starts.

The Czech player has been the subject of a tug-of-war between the FA Carling Premiership champions and Liverpool, but Poborsky had said that Old Trafford was the only place he wanted to move to.

Poborsky won acclaim after scoring a spectacular winning goal against Portugal in the quarter-finals of the European championship, helping his country progress to the final against Germany which they lost in extra time.

That achievement crowned a splendid season with Slavia winning the Czech championship and reaching the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup.

Slavia had wanted to hold onto their leading player, who still had two years of his contract to run, and the club saw him as being vital to their European Cup Champions' League campaign.

Brian Laws, the Grimsby Town manager, Kenny Swain, the assistant manager, and John Cockerill, the youth coach, have been given three-year contracts by the Nationwide League first division club.

Gabriel Batistuta, the Florentine striker, plans to retire from football when he passes 30 and return home to Argentina. The 27-year-old, who in May helped his club to the Italian Cup — their first trophy in 21 years — told the *Corriere dello Sport* newspaper he had no plans to become a coach and would prefer to return to rural Argentina.

"At 30 or 31, I'll call it quits," he said, dismissing the football world as a "jungle". "I could only go on if I thought I was still on top form physically ... I'll go back to Argentina when I can't take any more."

Batistuta this year equalled Diego Maradona's record of 34 goals for his country.

Symbolic gestures that enable the IOC to mine a golden seam

Good-bye battery

If you are a competitor, the Olympics is the pinnacle of competition, the acid test of whether you are as good as you really think you are. If you are anything to do with sports sponsorship, the marketing of television rights or the organisation of the commercial side of human endeavour, the same is true.

As the Games celebrate their hundredth birthday in Atlanta, one cannot help but applaud the brilliance of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in squeezing every last drop of money out of the event. Some may decry the loss of the amateur ethos, but

others realise that it had hardly existed since the Second World War, and, if you are going to embrace commercialism, you might as well be good at it.

The transformation of the Olympics from a liability, which cities took on as a loss leader in order to promote themselves to a profitable, commercial, exercise, was brought about by a brilliant change of strategy, thought up after the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. Essentially, the IOC realised that cutting down the number of sponsors for the Games actually improved the revenues. At

Montreal, in 1976, there were 626

sponsors and the revenue was a paltry £4.6 million. Moscow, in 1980, was not really a commercial exercise but the IOC hoped that having the Games in the United States four years later would boost revenue. It did. With only 34 sponsors, the IOC made £145 million.

The IOC then devised what it calls the Olympic Programme (TOP), which was the brainchild of a Briton, Terry Payne. A handful of sponsors are given TOP status, which means they can use the famous five rings in their marketing for four years up to the next Games. The IOC polices the use of

the rings aggressively — punk rockers with too many earrings should not visit Atlanta for fear of being pounced upon by the IOC.

The entry price is high. The ten

sponsors for Atlanta — Coca-Cola, Bausch & Lomb, Kodak, IBM, Panasonic, Time, Visa, Xerox, UPS and John Hancock — have paid a minimum of \$26 million and the total take by the IOC is expected to exceed £350 million. Reports are that the total Olympics-related marketing expenditure of Coca-Cola, which has its headquarters in Atlanta, will be £650 million this summer.

Then there are television rights. Uefa, the governing body of European football, might cast a look over to the IOC when it is considering the pathetic £50 million received for the rights to the

European football championship. The IOC is receiving more than £450 million from the American and European television rights to the Games, yet the sale of the rights to the World Cup in France in 1998 is only raising £72 million.

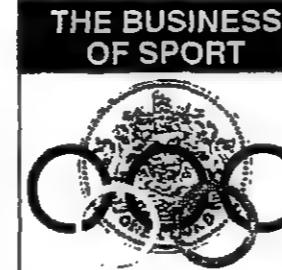
The viewing figures will hardly compare. The Barcelona Olympics were watched by 16,600 million people in 1992. The World Cup in the United States in 1994 was seen by 32.16 million people in 188 countries, yet the Barcelona rights went for five times as much money. The IOC's deal with NBC for the 2000, 2004 and 2008 games is staggering. For American tele-

vision rights alone, it is receiving £2.3 billion.

Everything in Atlanta is for sale. The Olympic stadium will be turned into the new home of the Atlanta Braves baseball team after the tournament and the running track is being dug up. If you were quick enough you could have ordered your piece from the builders, but it is now all sold.

If there was a gold medal for commercialism in sport, the IOC should award it to itself. You might not like their methods. But you cannot say they do not work.

JASON NISSE



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The entry price is high. The ten

SPORTS LETTERS

Better drug controls

From Mr Robert C. Copeman

Sir, The last Rugby World Cup and the recent Super 12 competition have clearly demonstrated that there is a huge amount of work for the northern hemisphere teams to do before they can hope to compete on equal terms with the best in the world.

New Zealand have clearly shown us the way forward in developing a true 15-man game based on levels of fitness, strength, power and technique with which only a few of our top players can compete.

In truth they have been professionals for a long long time and the only real way that the English game is ever going to compete is to match them in professionalism. Sadly, but quite evidently, this amongst other things, is going to cost money.

There will always be the risk of a third party administering illegal substances without the athlete's knowledge. The speed skater, Will O'Reilly, at an unaffordable personal expense, designed and had made a lockable sports drink bottle which has so far elicited complete lack of interest from all those parties who will most suffer if and when the next high profile "spiking" claim is made with all its subsequent litigation.

A visit to England's training camp or to any of the match venues during Euro 96 showed how easy it would be to slip tablets into the flip-top bottles used by the players and stood around the pitch. Too often we fail to support these highly-paid sportsmen professionally.

Yours very sincerely,
R. C. COPEMAN,
C.S.T.C.E.M. Ltd.,
PO Box 174,
Birmingham, B5 7PJ.

RFU takes up TV challenge

From Mr Ian Smith

Sir, The last Rugby World Cup and the recent Super 12 competition have clearly demonstrated that there is a huge amount of work for the northern hemisphere teams to do before they can hope to compete on equal terms with the best in the world.

Yours sincerely,
IAN SMITH,
26a Maple Road,
Leytonstone, E11.

From Mr Paul Braley

Sir, Three cheers for the Scottish, Welsh and Irish RFUs for kicking the Rugby Football Union into touch and out of the five nations' championship. In sport these days there is far too much greed and this seems to be encouraged by the results of blood tests can be a far better indicator of "malpractice" than random urine tests.

So congratulations to the Rugby Football Union for finally recognising this and attempting to drag the English game into the Nineties by negotiating a television contract which will fairly reflect England's contribution to the five nations' championship. I applaud their courage and hope quite fervently that they will stand up to the inevitable criticism that their decision will invoke.

Once again we are being held to ransom by the Celtic fringe who have grown rich off the back of England's contribution to the competition for long enough. We must immediately call their bluff and begin to arrange a new competition with the opposition who really count in world rugby — France, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand — and leave the second division of world rugby to realise what their true value is.

I for one will not weep for a

Joint body required

From Mr Charles Mercer

Sir, Many bowlers will agree with the views expressed by David Rhye Jones and others (July 16) that it has become increasingly difficult to provide satisfactory outdoor grass greens. It is unlikely that

things will improve.

I fear the Australian example of larger clubs would not work here if only because of space considerations. So, for many, the solution may be an artificial surface if one can be found.

It will need to be as good as grass, and with the same characteristics if it is to continue side by side with that will continue to play on grass.

When the artificial green becomes an acceptable fact of life, outdoor comparisons will be made with the indoor game despite the completely different surface. Perhaps there will be seen a greater compatibility between the outdoor and indoor games and a sort of coming together if you like.

The size of the audience will decrease, as not everyone can afford to subscribe to Sky. Has the RFU thought of the possible effect this will have on the number of hospitality boxes that will be bought?

The decision of the RFU will not encourage young people to take up the game, as they will not see the international players. They will therefore not have anyone to emulate, so from where will the future internationals come?

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES MERCER,
Blue Seas,
Watcombe Heights Road,
Torquay,
Devon.

Spectators lacking knowledge

From Miss M. Dromer

Sir, Unfortunately it seems that we are seeing a new generation of "know-nothings" (Michael Henderson, July 15).

I had the misfortune to spend the first day of the Trent Bridge Test in the William Clarke stand almost surrounded by teenagers of school age whose knowledge of cricket was minimal and whose sole aim was "to get on the telly", to which end they jeered, cheered, whistled, sang, chanted, stood on seats, climbed over seats and generally made a nuisance of themselves.

This experience makes me think that cricket watching in person at Test matches, which goes back to the Australians in 1948, as a schoolgirl, will end. Yours faithfully,

M. DROMER,
25 Belmont Gardens,
Edinburgh 12.

From Mr Fred Burrows

Sir, Whilst agreeing wholeheartedly with Michael Henderson's comments regarding the behaviour of the one-day

spectators at such occasions, this has happened repeatedly at Old Trafford and Headingly at most of the one day games, I have attended.

I was also at Trent Bridge on the second day of the Test and my complaint is levelled at the other end of the spectators, the corporate guests

Returning to their seat after lunch — usually late — they walked in front of the seated spectators during overs. Again, returning from tea, they were again late doing the same thing.

Finally, during England's innings from six o'clock to the end of play, the majority left early, clutching logo'd brochures and goodie bags, yet again walking across the views of spectators, eager to get away before the rush at end of play.

Please can the sponsors indicate on their invitations what cricket is about.</p

FOOTBALL
Poborsky
complete
move at last

THE TIMES MONDAY JULY 22 1996

SPORT 37

RACING: DERBY WINNER PLEASES HAGGAS AS HE COMPLETES PREPARATION FOR KING GEORGE

Shaamit earns top marks for homework

By JULIAN MUSCAT

HAAMIT, the much-maligned Derby winner, completed his preparation for the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes with an impressive workout at Newmarket racecourse yesterday. The three-year-old could not be in better health for his clash with the older generation at Ascot on Saturday.

Under Pat Eddery, Shaamit was held off the pace dictated by the Ed Dunlop-trained Top Guide and Yeast, the Royal

RICHARD EVANS

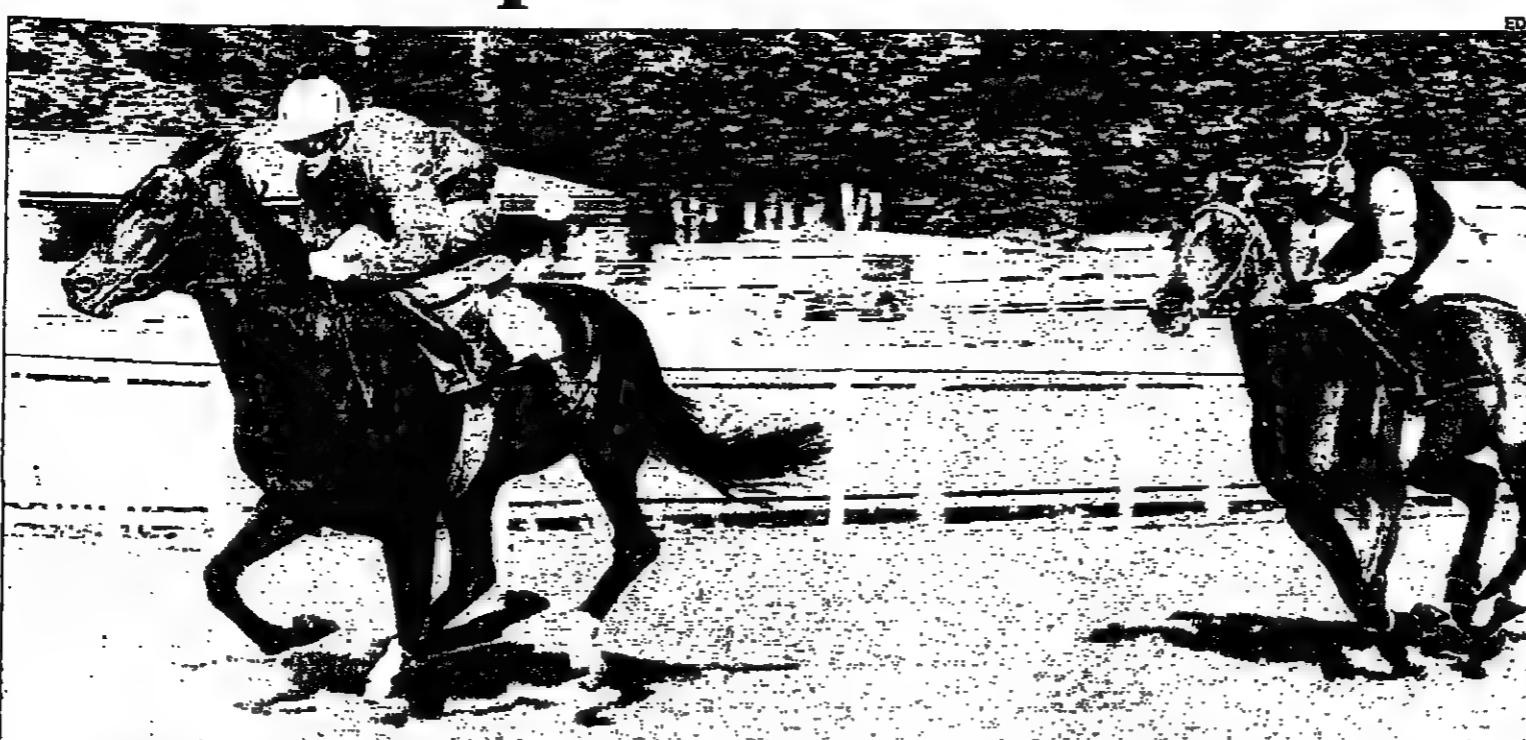
Nap: COLOMBIA
(7.55 Windsor)
Next best: Don Pepe
(2.45 Musselburgh)

Junt Cup winner, before gathering in the leaders at the end of seven furlongs on the July course. On this evidence, the colt is primed to uphold the honour of the classic crop.

William Haggas, who trains Shaamit, is not naturally inclined towards hyperbole,

but he said: "It was a decent piece of work. Top Guide has been leading Ta Rih in her work and Yeast is in coking form at the moment. Shaamit jinked up well and Pat seemed quite happy with the horse."

Shaamit bypassed the Irish Derby and Eclipse Stakes after throwing a shoe. A loose nail penetrated his hoof but the colt has now put those



Shaamit, partnered by Eddery, strides clear of one of his work companions, Yeast, on the July course at Newmarket yesterday

problems behind him. Haggas is eagerly anticipating the projected encounter with Pentire, Classic Cliche, Strategic Choice and Swain, although the last-named needs an easing in the fast ground to take his chance.

"It doesn't matter what the beaten horses in the Derby have been doing," Haggas maintained. "My horse won the race; it is entirely up to him to prove himself. Last year, they said Lammiarra won a

bad Derby but they're not saying that now. We are looking to make our horse into a star. He is as well as he was before the Derby. If anything, we think he is now a bit sharper."

Yesterday's gallop marked the second occasion Eddery has ridden Shaamit in his work. Eddery steeps into the seat vacated by Michael Hills, who rode Shaamit to his Epsom classic success. Hills opted for Pentire before incur-

ring a suspension which, pending appeal, will force him to sit out the King George.

"Pat now knows Shaamit," Haggas said. "The horse has plenty of speed and we won't be attacking around Swinley Bottom." The trainer added that Missmar, an easy winner at Newmarket on Saturday, is to carry his 7lb penalty at Epsom on Wednesday by provisionally booking Michael Roberts. It was Roberts who put Pentire through his paces over a mile on the July course yesterday.

This marked the South African's first feel of the four-year-

Hills, who partnered Top Guide in Shaamit's gallop, was also aboard Young Buster, who led the workout involving Pentire. Geoff Wragg, who trains Pentire, has covered an unfavourable condition to Hills's appeal on Wednesday by provisionally booking Michael Roberts. It was Roberts who put Pentire through his paces over a mile on the July course yesterday.

old, whose efforts were more than matched by stablemate First Island. However, Roberts was in optimistic mood. "Pentire is a laid-back little fellow but he quickened up well. He seems in good form."

■ Peter Chapple-Hyam's Astor Place finished third behind Darazari in the group two £39,526 Prix Maurice de Nieuil at Maisons-Laffitte yesterday.

Results, page 38

MUSSELBURGH

HUNTERER

15 Victoria's Secret, 2.45 DON PEPE (nap), 3.15 Nap's Repulse, 3.45 Nkopen Rocks, 4.15 Foxes all, 4.45 China Hand.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.15 GILLESPIE'S MALT STOUT MAIDEN

HANDICAP (2.0, 1m 4f 31yds) (4 runners)

1 (C) 4229 VICTORIA'S SECRET 3 M Channon 4-9-10... T Dalton

2 (C) 0053 ATENZA 18 5 Williams 3-3-2... K Fallon

3 (J) 046 THE GREAT FLOOR 21 H Niles 3-0-10... B Duffield

4 (J) 0350 PHARO CLOSE 3 W Karp 3-8-9... T Williams

5 (C) 946 Victoria's Secret, 5-2 Karp, 3-1 The Great Floor, 5-1 Pier Closer.

6-10 TRUTH 42 (3.0) 4 Pier Closer, 2-4-1 Encore, 4-1 Encore, 5-1 Pier Closer

7-10 DON PEPE 4-1 Encore, 5-1 Truth, 6-1 Encore, 6-1 Encore, 7-1 Pier Closer

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Jennai Cox decides to give windsurfing a try, and discovers that women fall off less often than men do

It's as easy as falling off a board

When windsurfers arrived on Weymouth beach for its Speed Week 20 years ago, the yachting enthusiasts laughed. None believed a sail attached to what resembled an ironing board would be capable of racing.

Board sailors are now among the fastest non-engine powered vehicles on water, reaching 45 knots.

With two British champions competing in the Atlanta Olympics, the windsurfing industry wants to raise the profile of the sport. Affiliated organisations are committed to a five-year development programme and the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) is running activities throughout the summer to give families a chance to sail.

RYA training is considered some of the best in the world, and guarantees to have any newcomer sailing within hours, so I thought I would give it a try with the Aqua Sport Company at Mercers Park, in Surrey. Lessons start with a demonstration on a simulated board of how to get on, sail into and away from the wind, and turn. Many windsurfers are put off by their first experience. Bad weather or insufficient instruction are the main culprits. With step-by-step tuition the first sail should be a thrilling experience.

After an hour's coaching, including trying the rescue position, I was declared ready for water. Women are said to learn faster than men. To test the theory that women have better balance I was told to jump up and down on the board. The attempt to get me used to falling in failed — I stayed on.

Using the rope I then crouched, hauled up the sail and tried to gauge the wind direction. To my surprise I was soon sailing, tacking and gybing (basic turning) but never really knowing whether the board was going up or downwind. Memorising technicalities is not important; with practice and experimentation board sailors learn to feel the wind.

Sudden gusts of wind can be anticipated by watching shadows on the water. These gusts sent the board skimming and the thrill has been described as being the closest to flying without leaving the ground. Real skill comes with controlling the sail in strong wind. Holding the boom, the hand nearest the back of the board acts as an accelerator, but then when I tried to slow down I fell flat.

At the beginning it is technique, not physical strength, and concentration that are required. Thinking about the direction of the wind, the positioning of your feet and keeping your back straight can be enough to set you off balance. While constantly falling in the water can be tiring, windsurfing is excellent exercise. Shoulder, back, leg and stomach muscles can all be felt to be working.

Having mastered the basics and falling off only three times, I was awarded level 1 by the day's end. RYA qualifica-



tions are internationally recognised and holders can sail any open water in the UK. With balance and determination, it is not as hard as it looks.

The same cannot be said for the antics of expert windsurfers numbering about 20,000 in Britain, who, on shorter boards with smaller sails for greater speed, perform jumps and back loops and sail in waves surfboarders would avoid. But for the 100,000 recreational windsurfers the sport offers speed with safety.

What excites windsurfers is the ongoing innovation in the sport. Its invention was the subject of a courtroom dispute in the 1980s when an American manufacturer, trying to secure world patent rights, claimed two US surfers had tried it first in California in 1968.

However, Peter Chivers, who ten years earlier at the age of 12 used a tent, fly sheet, plywood and curtain rings to make his first sailboard on Hayling Island, was found to be the inventor.

Technological advances mean rigs and boards, now made with carbon fibre, are lighter and wetsuits warmer than ten years ago. Sails come in sizes from two to ten metres and the price of equipment is going down. A full set of new gear costs more than £1,000 but second hand can be bought for £500.

Watersport centres can teach the deaf, blind and disabled, as well as the elderly and young children; you only need to know how to swim.

At one of 264 centres approved by the RYA, eight hours of teaching, up to level 1, costs about £60 and almost everyone, according to research, lives within ten miles of a centre.



This sport offers speed with safety, and you can feel your shoulder, back, leg and stomach muscles working

To my surprise I found I was soon sailing, tacking and gybing

WHAT TO BUY

Ring the Royal Yachting Association for your nearest shop or dealership. Prices from Surf Sales of Folkestone, Kent, one of the largest distributors of windsurfing equipment. They are middle to top of the market. (01303 850553)

BOARDS

Surf-light (long board, 3m 80cm), gilded and suitable for all winds £899
Escape (long board, 3m 40cm) for the more experienced surfer £600
Free ride screamer (short board, 2m 70cm) for wave-jumping £799

SAILS

The round rig for beginners (5m 70cm) £190
North Sail Spectro rig for the more experienced (7m) £699

WETSUITS AND ACCESSORIES

Spartan winter and summer wetsuits in any size £149-£350
Dakine harness £50
Gearbags with wet and dry compartments £50

Phone book

The Aqua Sports Company, Mercers Park, Surrey (01737 644289)

SSM Freesports and the British Trade Federation offer information on how to get started (0171-376 7446)

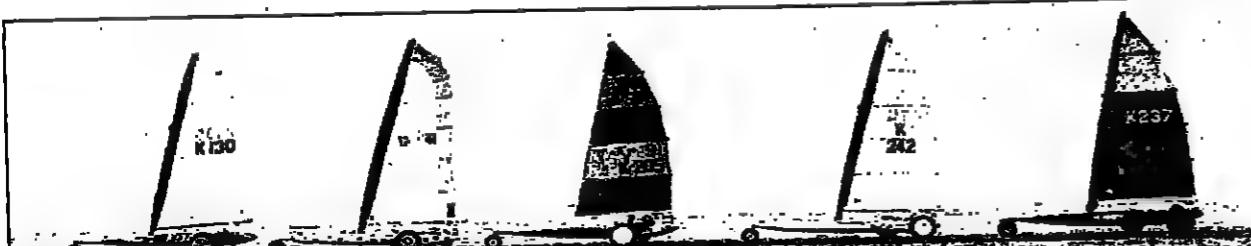
Royal Yachting Association, the governing body, is organising family tester days (01703 627400)

UK Board Sailing Association, for long board sailing (01329 667749)

British Windsurfing Association, for short board sailing (01705 468182)

British Windsurfing World Cup 1996 is in Brighton from September 4-9 (0171-352 6742)

NORMAN LOMAX



Landyachts have come some way since the Egyptians and Chinese used them to move goods and armies around

Six out of ten for exhilaration

Robert Crampton tries his hand at the skill of sailing on tarmac

WHEN I was asked to go landyachting in Cornwall I immediately thought of a huge, hard, golden beach, a bit like the one the athletes trained on in *Chariots of Fire*, and so I said yes, and off to Perranporth without delay.

Trouble is, although Perranporth does indeed boast such a beach — three miles long, half a mile wide at low tide — and although when landyachting came to Britain as a sport in the 1960s it was to Perranporth that it came, you are no longer allowed to landyacht here. Dogs chase you, sunbathers get run over, children building sandcastles become depressed. I ended up at an airfield instead.

Never mind. Landyachts go faster on tarmac than they do on sand, and you don't get covered in grit and salt water.

However, tarmac hurts more if you fall out. Plus, this being an active airfield, you have to avoid sailing into anybody's

propeller, because that would ruin your day.

At this airfield — the former RAF Perranporth up on the cliffs — the wind is stronger than at sea level. The general rule is that a basic yacht with a windsurf sail — the type beginner user can — go up to twice the prevailing wind speed.

A land yacht is a fibreglass cockpit on a stainless steel chassis attached to three rubber wheels, the whole body is about eight feet long and four feet wide at the back wheels.

Landyachts have come some way since the Egyptians and the Chinese used them to move goods and armies around 4,000 years ago, but they are still basic bits of equipment. You sit in the cockpit and steer the front wheel with two foot pedals. There's a bit of fun to be had in realising there are no brakes.

It doesn't last long because there's no accelerator either.

The power arrives when you attach the 5-metre square Dacron sail. You trim this sail in or out according to the wind and how fast you want to go by means of a hand-held bit of rope called a mainsheet, which is tied to the back of a boom around the sail.

I spent a pleasant ten minutes pottering up and down the runway in figure of eights around two cones, doing cautious "tack" turns into the wind. On a scale of exhilaration from one to ten, I'd give it a six. I wanted to go a bit faster and was told that the more you increase the speed, the further the "apparent" wind you create moves through a 90-degree arc, from the true wind to the side towards the front thus enabling you to go even faster.

Got that? Never mind, it's still good clean fun.

• Windsport International: 01326 37691

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I spent a pleasant ten minutes pottering up and down the runway in figure of eights around two cones, doing cautious "tack" turns into the wind. On a scale of exhilaration from one to ten, I'd give it a six. I wanted to go a bit faster and was told that the more you increase the speed, the further the "apparent" wind you create moves through a 90-degree arc, from the true wind to the side towards the front thus enabling you to go even faster.

Got that? Never mind, it's still good clean fun.

• Windsport International: 01326 37691

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RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Thorn EMI (first quarter), SmithKline Beecham, Finals: Abtrus Scotland Investment, Tomorrow Leisure. Economic statistics: US Treasury; auction of short-term T-bills and June budget statement.

TOMORROW

Interims: Briton Estate, Elan, M&G Equity Investment Trust, St Modwen Properties, Temple Bar Investment Trust, Updown Investment, Finals: Barbour index, KS Biomedics, Martineau Young, Lazard Frères. Economic statistics: Bank of England £2.5 billion gilt auction, CBI July Industrial trends survey, US Treasury two-year auction, US Treasury announces new stock market rules, T-bills, Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan testifies to House banking committee on the second day of Humphrey-Hawkins testimony.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Allied Textile, Beta Global Emerging, Bullough, Lloyds Alternative Management, Underwriting, Murray International Trust, Reuters, Sparco Consulting, Finals: Vibroplant, Birky, Eurodis Electron, Menier-Sweat, Co-operative Bank. Economic statistics: June retail sales, US Treasury five-year note auction.

THURSDAY

Interims: Admiral, Ayrshire Metal, British Telecom (first quarter), ICI, RPS Group, Witton Investment, Finals: Sidney C Banks, Creighton's Natural, Murray Income Fund, Economic statistics: May global trade balance, June non-EU trade balance, Bundesbank central council meeting, US weekly jobless claims.

FRIDAY

Interims: Corporate Services, Gregg, Law Services, Rushmore Wynne Group, Finals: Angerstein Underwriting, Electric & General, Jersey Phoenix Trust, Economic statistics: second-quarter machinery GDP, June major banking groups mortgage lending.

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy T&N, Manders, Babcock. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Thorn EMI, Midland Independent. The Independent on Sunday: Buy Zeneca, Sels Land Securities. The Mail on Sunday: Hold Dura Petroleum. Independent Radio Group.

COMPANIES

KAREN ZAGOR

SmithKline seeks growth tonic



Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds TSB, gives the first merged figures on Friday

LLOYDS TSB: The first set of interim figures from the newly merged bank should provide interesting reading on Friday.

Salomon Brothers is looking

for pre-tax profits of £1.14 billion, with earnings per share of 14p. The predicted dividend of 4.3p will be a balance between Lloyds' final dividend and TSB's interim.

Looking forward, Salomon expects full-year profits of £2.36 billion as savings from the merger become apparent.

BRITISH TELECOM: It is unlikely that the telecommunications giant's first-quarter results will spring anything that will have anywhere near the

impact of Ofcom's pricing proposals. NatWest Securities is looking for a 3 per cent decline in pre-tax profits to £851 million, and earnings per

share to 8.9p. Stripping out a £50 million redundancy charge, earnings will be 1 per cent higher. Analysts will be more concerned with discover-

ing whether BT has accepted or rejected the regulator's revised proposals. The company's decision is expected next week.

REUTERS: Analysts will be looking ahead to details of a new generation of 3,000 products rather than backwards to historical performance when Reuters unveils its first-half figures on Wednesday.

Pre-tax profits should grow about 17 per cent to £323 million, with earnings per share of 13.6p and a dividend of 2.9p. The Intertel and Globex dealing screens contributed to strong figures in the first quarter and are expected to continue to help in the second, offsetting more sedentary revenue growth from information products.

ICI: Gloom and doom have already been predicted for the UK's biggest chemicals company for the second quarter, and some analysts fear the performance may be worse than the recently revised estimates.

The chief culprit is polyester PET, used to make polyester bottles, once fuelled group profits. But a glut of new plants has led to over-supply, hitting prices. Pre-tax interim profits, released on Thursday, are expected to tumble to £400 million from £510 million, with earnings per share dropping to 31.7p from 41.6p. Despite these depressing figures, led by weakness from the industrial division, the net dividend is expected to rise to 12.5p (11.5p).

On Thursday, there are May whole world trade figures, expected to show a deficit of £1.3 billion, the same as in April. Non-European Union trade for June is expected to show a shortfall of

£800 million, again the same magnitude as the deficit in May.

Friday ends the week with preliminary figures for second-quarter gross domestic product. The economy is expected to have grown 0.6 per cent in the quarter, giving a year-on-year growth rate of 2.0 per cent (0.4 per cent in first quarter and 1.9 per cent year on year).

Among other developments to watch

are the Bundesbank's council meeting on Thursday, the last before the summer recess, for any change to German interest rates. And there will be more testimony tomorrow from Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, on the American economy.

JANET BUSH

THE TIMES MONDAY JULY 2

GILT-EDGED

Four wishes for the Chancellor as election looms

It is not hard to guess what Kenneth Clarke's four wishes for the coming year. He would like to cut interest rates, cut taxes, see the Conservatives re-elected, and then see the Government move towards European Monetary Union (EMU). Even if he is only likely to get three of the wishes, this promises good news for gilt.

The biggest barrier to the Chancellor's first wish is the Governor of the Bank of England. At their June 5 meeting, Eddie George objected to the quarter-point cut in bank base rates.

Mr George's focus on inflationary risks of a pick-up in consumer spending suggests that if the Chancellor pushes for another rate cut soon, he is unlikely to be quick to agree. Since Mr Clarke will not want to intensify the rift with the Governor, he is likely to hold fire at their next meeting, on July 30. Another cut would risk a riposte in the Bank's Inflation Report in August.

However, evidence this summer is likely to continue to go Mr Clarke's way, letting him cut rates again in the autumn. The coming months may provide a good test of fears, shared by the Bank, that consumer-led growth will trigger higher inflation.

It is true that the economy is set to accelerate in the coming year, boosted by rising real incomes, tax cuts and lower interest rates, but this is no 1980s-style boom. Producer price inflation is falling so sharply that there is room for a sharp rise in retail margins and a fall in retail price inflation. Underlying inflation may go below 2.5 per cent in September, back in the Government's target range. So, another quarter-point off base rates is on the cards then or in October.

No doubt there will be claims that the cut is "politically

MARK HSBC

The irony is that Clarke is likely to leave Labour in good shape EMU criteria, with under control and better placed than I meet the crucial but Labour's EMU stance will, in itself, positive reassessment of the gilt market, but it will reinforce pressure to benign inheritance. raise a wry smile at Clarke at the Cons electoral funeral.

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Ir wishes Chance lection to health care of elderly should be et by NHS'

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

overnment has been criticised by the National Council of "tinkering at the edges" of the problem of care for Britain's elderly population. Government proposals, put in a White Paper in July to prove unfair and benefit only a small number of people, spend the watchdog a report published.

Government has prime opportunity to offer consumers more," the NCC claims. The Government to all long-term care needs are met by the National Health Service. educate inequalities in available to people different parts of the department of Health

TOURIST RATES

Bank Boys Bank Sales 2.05 £1.89 17.22 15.72 11.11 2.216 0.8081 0.7486 0.8818 0.847 0.87 7.67 6.92 1.25 2.480 2.250 368 553 129 11.11 113 0.93 1.017 0.8037 5.31 0.881 0.4545 2.268 18.80 0.5623 0.533 2.740 2.510 15 10.45 24.000 22.850 7.37 8.87 201.50 186.60 10.00 2.017 1.837 152.616 124.616 1.841 1.511

Small denomination bank from Lloyds Bank PLC see entry to "Investment Bonds" at close of trading on 30 June 1996.

has proposed a "partnership scheme" in which consumers can ring-fence their assets by taking out a long-term insurance policy. The elderly would be given a "disregard" of £150 on their assets for every £1 worth of insurance they took out. In effect, this would mean that if they bought insurance worth £40,000 then, together with the £16,000 "disregard" for single pensioners, the State would allow assets worth £60,000 to be left free for inheritance, before it claimed any surplus to cover long-term care costs.

The NCC urges the Government to redraft its proposed £1.50 for EI scheme and instead recommends adoption of a EI for EI scheme. "This avoids better-off consumers being subsidised by taxpayers, many of whom cannot afford this kind of insurance," the council said. "These include people without enough money to pay the large premiums required; people not considered to be an insurable risk; younger people with long-term disabilities or chronic illnesses; and people with a genetic disposition to certain illnesses, such as Alzheimer's disease — all of whom could be debarred from the schemes."

The council is also pressing for long-term care to be regulated under the Financial Services Act 1988, which requires "best advice" to be given to consumers buying investment products.

Last week the Personal Investment Authority (PIA) announced plans to develop a "kitmark" for long-term care and investment products of which it approves, and will extend the legal contracts it already has with 4,000 member firms to cover long-term care policies.

BT to decide on Oftel package

By OUR CITY STAFF

BT is to hold a board meeting tomorrow to decide whether to accept or to reject the regulatory package proposed by Oftel, the telecommunications regulator.

Rejection of the regulatory package would automatically trigger an inquiry by the Monopolies and Mergers

Commission. Don Cruickshank, the Director-General of Oftel, has allowed BT until August 2 to make a decision.

BT said that it can accept the new pricing formula but is resisting the proposed fair trading clause because it denies the company a right of appeal. The company is not

expected to reveal its decision on the regulatory package until next week.

In a separate development, BT has played down speculation that it is set to mount a bid for EDS, the information technology company that was recently spun off from General Motors of America.

Sherwood attacks sell-off

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE head of one of the first rail franchises to be privatised has attacked the British Rail sell-off, warning that passengers could be forced to pay more for poorer train services.

James Sherwood, president of Sea Containers, awarded the seven-year franchise for the East Coast Main Line in

March, said privatisation "is being accomplished with little or no commitment to capital investment."

Unless the various parties involved in the newly fragmented railways worked closely together, "there will be no improvement," he said. "Passengers will wind up paying more to travel on a deteriorating railway."

He had argued for 35-year franchises to allow investment in new rolling stock and improved stations. Through "political interference", franchises had been saddled with "absurd or unworkable" commitments, he said.

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

1996 High	1996 Low	Mid cap (million)	Price per share	Wkly +/-	YTD %	P/E	1996 High	1996 Low	Mid cap (million)	Price per share	Wkly +/-	YTD %	P/E	1996 High	1996 Low	Mid cap (million)	Price per share	Wkly +/-	YTD %	P/E	
136	132	13.30 AFA Systems	7.03	- 3	5.5	16.0	53	41	2.78 Fairwood	53	-	-	-	70	55	Nimh Res Pips	56	- 4	13	32.7	
134	109	16.20 AMCO Corp	114	-	5.5	16.0	138	111	42.70 Fibres	115	-	-	-	116	101	Nursing Home	115	- 2	1.0	54.2	
128	113	25.20 Action Imaging	138	- 13	-	-	260	75	5.77 First Publ	245	- 15	-	-	125	100	English Pub	150	- 1	0.6	-	
181	115	50.20 A de Gruy	205	-	3.7	16.3	183	172	15.60 Ferrocast	173	+ 1	-	-	75	43	Omnimail	110	- 1	-	-	
204	74	14.40 African Gold	14	-	-	-	245	188	5.78 Finetics	225	-	14	-	123	66	Omnimail	31	+ 3	-	-	
211	13	6.62 Albermarle & Ed	175	- 1	-	-	143	162	1.62 Flotilla	268	- 15	8.4	13.1	263	43	Optical Care	113	+ 8	-	-	
38	46	16.62 Alltene	51	-	-	-	125	150	1.50 Formula	148	- 17	1.7	18.2	109	17	Pan American Res	85	+ 3	-	-	
24	13	14.20 Amcor	14	-	-	-	125	150	1.50 Formula	317	+ 2	23	12.0	415	360	Pet Cos	200	- 1	3.1	-	
479	386	45.00 Aon St Brewery	470	+ 3	4.9	12.7	143	93	8.15 Fording Homes	136	-	-	-	107	80	Polymeric Pharms	127	- 10	-	-	
975	885	5.78 Aon St Cr Pl	975	-	8.3	-	11	85	2.00 Gender Huds	11	-	-	-	184	154	Pordim Foods	8.19	-	-	-	
121	50	40.00 Antwerp	56	-	-	-	21	16	24.60 Gold Mine Sardines	18	-	-	-	7	7	Pordim Foods	4.78	-	-	-	
31	26	1.89 Arion Progs	8	-	-	-	12	8	5.85 Gold Minis Sard Wts	11	-	-	-	305	240	Preston Nth E	525	- 5	-	-	
21	18	21.50 Ariva Central	48	-	-	-	15	11	3.45 Gordon	148	-	3.4	-	103	80	Preston Nth H Pr	105	-	-	-	
63	55	1.14 Athletico Trust	63	-	-	-	41	18	1.03 Gorham	62	-	5.5	11.4	32	32	Rapital Zm	5.62	+ 2.5	39.5	-	
130	123	40.10 BATM Adv Comm	125	+ 4	-	-	150	125	2.74 Hat Pin	55	-	-	-	143	113	Revelation Pic	125	+ 5	-	-	
61	51	8.05 Ballyway	51	-	-	-	68	52	1.40 Hercules Prop	175	-	2.6	17.0	11.20 Riceman Incls	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	17	5.62 Bars Huds	22	-	-	-	65	50	1.40 Hercules Prop	245	-	2.9	15.1	18	16	Riceman Incls	105	- 1	-	-	
46	35	3.37 Belcaro	38	-	7	12.1	275	155	16.77 Hemline A	245	-	2.6	17.0	11.20 Riceman Incls	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
129	109	1.90 Belcaro Ltd	145	-	3.9	7.1	150	130	1.50 Hemline B	108	-	-	-	108	80	Riceman Incls	105	- 1	-	-	
70	48	8.33 Belcaro Huds	70	-	-	-	100	85	0.82 Hertfordshire	100	-	-	-	125	100	Riceman Incls	105	- 1	-	-	
503	421	56.10 Benbrook	460	+ 10	2.0	-	297	195	1.70 IES	195	-	2.4	-	142	114	Rushmore Wayne	3.15	-	-	-	
124	116	12.50 BC Cents Huds	116	-	-	-	280	200	3.92 IES Warrants	190	- 25	0.4	-	126	31	SCS Salelife	31	-	-	-	
120	116	0.94 CCI Huds	118	-	-	-	150	125	1.30 Indep Radio	128	-	-	-	75	68	SEA Multimedia	55	-	-	-	
213	95	1.50 CDA Inds	110	-	-	-	134	105	1.90 Indep Webware	105	-	-	-	21	18	Scobland Inds	28	-	4.5	26.5	
75	55	7.76 Caledonian Tel	65	-	2	1.7	143	115	1.70 Information Edge	115	-	-	-	23	23	Scobland Inds	37	- 1	13.0	14.3	
96	68	2.53 Capital & Wsln	24	-	-	-	548	503	2.00 Interlog	230	-	-	-	320	278	14.60 Solentcom	305	-	5.3	-	
417	29	18.00 Card Clear	40	+ 7	-	-	103	93	3.71 Jasmin	91	-	-	-	60	50	Self Sealing	38	-	-	-	
129	91	9.23 Caribon Ship	91	-	-	-	320	280	21.80 Jennings Bros	285	-	2.7	21.2	174	164	Solentcom	174	+ 2	-	-	
72	58	12.50 Carron Brs	55	-	6.5	-	125	105	5.70 Kestrel Group	105	-	-	-	126	104	Sorbs Bus Serv	9.27	-	-	-	
48	41	2.09 Cavendish F	50	-	-	-	125	105	39.10 KS Biomedics	93	-	-	-	115	93	Sorbs Bus Serv	1.75	-	-	-	
19	15	6.30 ClubPartners	18	+ 1	-	-	160	145	1.60 La Senza	145	-	-	-	505	524	Sorbs Bus Serv	126.50	-	-	-	
325	550	71.00 Celtic	245	-	-	-	120	137	28.70 Lancashire En	155	+ 10	1.2	12.5	68	68	Stadium Venis	88	-	-	-	

e told f school pair of star-crossed lovers take their leave

so, with a single leap, he was gone. Superman was off to start a new life on Luton, a lump of galactic dust a dying sun. He was leaving Lois' life, or at least my nights, would never be again.

If it took several leaps to the latest series of *The New Adventures of Superman* (BBC1) each time you thought it over, back would fly the fight for yet another cuddle with his Earth-belonged, "I'll be here waiting". Lois sobbed, still in after discovering that her had been married to at birth: "If you can't tell me what's happening, run high, as no room for convention-departure chat. After all, I task superheroes whether we're there they've packed in (when did you last see

Superman with a suitcase anyway?) or whether they've got a serious hankie, you keep to the serious stuff. If you've been bated to and fro, the last transmitted telepathically from somewhere near Alpha Centauri. It really was all over.

In common with many of its adult admirers, I have found this series somewhat less enjoyable than its predecessors. Some have blamed this on Teri Hatcher's new "let's get serious" hairstyle, others on her newly gained silhouette. Certainly, there is less to Lois than there used to be. But Hatcher was exceptionally good in Saturday night's finale, exuding a top-class mix of vulnerability and heartbroken resilience. No, the problem does not lie with her.

The problem lies with the story itself. The reason why the programme has proved so popular with the grown-ups was its producers' early recognition that in

Lois and Clark they had a romance every bit as potent, every bit as tragic as *Romeo and Juliet*. The difficulty is that while Romeo and Juliet die just once (sorry, I know you don't like me giving away endings) the requirements of television mean that Lois and Clark have to be thwarted in love up to 26 times a year. Once the set-backs hit double figures... well, even the most romantic soul loses interest.

Earlier in this series, the producers broke with decades of tradition by allowing Lois to discover that Superman and Clark were one and the same. At the time, I thought they handled the moment beautifully, but looking back, that may be where the romantic *rot set* in.

Lois loves Superman, while Clark loves Lois was a captivating one-off: the only eternal triangle to have two corners. Lois loves Clark and Clark loves Lois is all very

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

nice, but it has proved a little ordinary in comparison and something of a challenge to the normally resourceful team of script-writers. Still, the last episode — greatly enlivened by Roger Daltrey's presence as an acid-splitting alien assassin — was a gem. A spot of galactic absence may yet make the heart grow fonder.

Last night's television was conspicuous for two documentaries

which promised one thing and then delivered quite another. *William Morris: The Earthly Paradise* (BBC1) pledged us William Morris, the man, rather than Morris, the wallpaper, while *Encounters: The Beasts of Bardia* (Channel 4) promised mammoths, monsters and giant elephants.

What we ended up with was a very

enjoyable 50 minutes which still had lots of wallpaper in it, followed by a disappointing hour spent looking at somebody's expensive safari holiday snaps.

Reassessing Morris is no easy task, we learnt in Tim Niel's neatly assembled portrait. The dismissal of Morris the political radical, Morris the socialist revolutionary, dates right back to *The Times*' obituary of 1896, which described his fiercely-held convictions as "mistaken enthusiasms... as nothing compared to the lasting works of his better genius".

Of course, there are those who

feel that his wallpapers were his (something he despised) to bring his designs to the common herd (something he loved). Or would he be running a craft centre specialising in expensive, hand-printed wallpapers and re-caning chairs, somewhere in Clapham? Personally, I thought a third suggestion had the ring of truth about it — that he'd be up a tree, protesting about the Newbury bypass.

As for the beasts of Bardia, they turned out to be three, possibly four, big elephants with two big bumps on their heads. The film was blighted by an annoyingly over-cooked narration ("as night falls, Blashford-Snell is concerned... Adrian is still in the jungle, way past the six o'clock curfew") and a distinct lack of pictures of the beasts being sought. I made it about 30 seconds, which is a documentary down for an hour was definitely not enough.

• Lynne Truss is on holiday

business Breakfast (27342)
epic Breakfast. The best of the action. Featuring Great Brian's in the men's hockey and tour final (s) includes 7.15, 7.45, 8.15 News (18803)
s (Ceefax) (4966145)
epic Grandstand. Extended highlights of swimming, boxing, gymnastics, strength, weightlifting, volleyball, wrestling competitions (Ceefax) (s), 11.40; 12.00; 12.00 News (4926176); neighbours. The gulf between us and Sam continues to grow (s) (669071)
s (Ceefax) and Weather (1990)
onal News (12287071)
epic Grandstand. Sue Barker faces action from the women's freestyle, men's 100m butterfly, plus 200m butterfly and women's 100m stroke swimming heats; rowing; and dressage section in the three-day team competition (s) (64578087)
hours (t) (Ceefax) (s) (714396)
s (Ceefax) and Weather (667)
onal News Magazines (919)

Essential Olympics. Desmond introduces news from a busy day pool, the rowing heats featuring the men's and women's eights. Plus middleweight judo final, live action the boxing ring; the closing rounds shooting and the dressage section three-day event (Ceefax) (s) (4261)
enders. The Fowlers prepare for an inquest (Ceefax) (s) (6629)
Doctor Beeching! Everyone turns to help Celia move into the Station's house (Ceefax) (s) (1464)
Regional News: Weather (s) (2174)

Writing on the Wall. Part two of a fan thriller set among the tensions of the new Europe, security at an RAF base in any is shattered by a bomb. Bill 5 anti-terrorism expert — is flown in to investigate. With Bill Paterson and Imrie (Ceefax) (s) (20803)

epic Grandstand. Introduced by Linda Lyman and featuring 10.30astics Coverage from the third day competition, starting with the final men's team gymnastics (5636176) 11.30am Swimming including the men's 400m freestyle, featuring Sarah Hardcastle; plus the finals men's 200m butterfly, men's 100m flye, women's 100m backstroke; 200m butterfly and women's 4 x 100m freestyle relay (121304); 2.10pm Swimming/Wrestling/Hockey/Volleyball/Basketball. Plus the news from day two of the dressage on the third day event; boxing, weightlifting, volleyball, hockey, volleyball basketball (s) (5027217)

It: Murder in the Music Hall (1946), starring Vera Rumba, Ralston, William Hall and Helen Walker. The title leader of a music hall comes to rescue of the woman he loves who is seduced by John Directed by John sh (81946). Ends 8.00

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in (82377) 8.00 Press Your

5.00 Love Connection

15 The Ocean Whirl Show

40 Jeopardy (652645) 11.10

Rachael (1209532) 12.00

169 Hotel (543426) 12.00

Court (IV) 3.30 The

Show (252636) 4.15 Under

Quantum Leap (106) 6.00

9.30 The X-Files (11930)

7.00 Star Trek: Generations

10 CBS 6.00 Monday

11.30 Star Trek: Generations

12.00 The Twilight Hour with Sir Bernard Ingham (96975) 12.00

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone



Jill Morrison (7.30pm)

7.30 The Day That Changed My Life: Those Left Behind (Ceefax) (s) (445)

8.00 Olympic Grandstand. Sue Barker with continued action from Atlanta, including the finals of the judo middleweight section, men's and women's fencing, weightlifting, volleyball, wrestling and yachting (s) (3976193)

10.20 2. Dance: Dance for the Camera — Dwell Time and Face. Two specially commissioned programmes for the *Dance for the Camera* series. The first involves a stranger with an accordion who leads a group of dancers in search of a tune and the second is an energetic solo piece that explores speed and is punctuated with moments of tension-filled calm (467483)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (88025)

11.15 Double Exposure: Out of the Deep Part 1. A comedy caper (Ceefax) (s) (741700)

11.50 Hold Up Cuttings (63990)

12.00 The Midnight Hour with Sir Bernard Ingham (96975)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00 The Lost Continent (1968) (53964)

François and Johnny (1986)

(57075) 3.30 The Young Philistines (1959) (3565209) 6.00 Shepherd of the Sheep (1941) (71826) 8.00 Comeback Kid (1972) (3565210) 11.15 Cherry, Harry and Respect (1969) (265087) 1.30 Who's That Knocking at My Door? (1968) (601628) 2.45-5.00 Call Me Madam (1953) (408511)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Back to the Beach (1987)

(6043736) 7.30 Dogteam Inc: One for All

and All for One (1985) (3040233) 8.00 The Summer Story (1985) (265087) 9.00 The Summer Story (1985) (265087) 10.30 The Player (1992) (41613) 12.00

12.30am-5.00 Back to the Beach (1987) (3565209) 6.00 Back to the Beach (1987) (3565210) 8.00 Comeback Kid (1941) (71826) 10.30 The Player (1992) (41613) 12.00

1.30am-5.00 Dogteam Inc: One for All

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10.20 2. Dance: Dance for the Camera — Dwell Time and Face. Two specially

EUROSPORT

7.00am Good Morning Atlanta. The day's coverage begins (21848) 8.30 Good Morning Atlanta (76377) 7.00 Swimming (37865) 8.30 The Young Philistines (1959) (3565209) 6.00 Shepherd of the Sheep (1941) (71826) 8.00 Comeback Kid (1972) (3565210) 11.15 Cherry, Harry and Respect (1969) (265087) 1.30 Who's That Knocking at My Door? (1968) (601628) 2.45-5.00 Call Me Madam (1953) (408511)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

10.30am Baby: Disney's

11.00am DuckTales (27154)

11.30am Darkwing Duck (14779700)

12.00am Goofy (768227)

12.30am The Land Before Time (27154)

1.00am Mickey Mouse Clubhouse (27154)

1.30am The Powerpuff Girls (27154)

2.00am The Chipettes (27154)

2.30am The Little Mermaid (27154)

3.00am The Lion King (27154)

3.30am The Road Runner (27154)

4.00am The Smurfs (27154)

4.30am The Teletubbies (27154)

5.00am The Wizard of Oz (27154)

5.30am The Animaniacs (27154)

6.00am The Powerpuff Girls (27154)

6.30am The Land Before Time (27154)

7.00am The Lion King (27154)

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CAPITAL GAIN 46

GRAHAM SEARJEANT
ON A TAX LEGACY
TO BENEFIT YOUNG

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BUSINESS

MONDAY JULY 22 1996

GUNS BLAZING
EUROFIGHTER
FOR TAKE-SPECTACU

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY

Energy shares on way

Pearson aims to expand TV side with stake in Flextech

By ERIC REGULY

PEARSON, the media and entertainment group that owns the *Financial Times*, is negotiating to buy a stake in Flextech, the cable and satellite programme, as part of a bid to expand its television interests.

The deal is expected to be signed within a couple of months and would make Pearson a shareholder in Britain's second largest source of pay-TV channels, after BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, which is 40 per

cent owned by News International, publisher of *The Times*.

The deal would put Pearson in the company of some of America's top media and programming groups. Flextech is half owned by Telecommunications Inc, the leading cable-TV company, US West, the regional telephone company that controls TeleWest Communications, Britain's largest cable company, has 10 per cent of Flextech, while Hallmark Entertainment, the producer of made-for-TV movies, has 9 per cent. The negotiations

between Pearson and Flextech are complex because Flextech wants Pearson to swap its stake in two Flextech channels — UK Gold and UK Living — for a Flextech stake.

Pearson owns about 20 per cent of UK Gold, whose programmes are drawn from the libraries of the BBC and Thames Television. Flextech has 27 per cent and wants to raise its UK Gold stake because it is the first non-BSkyB channel to go into profit.

Pearson also has about 22 per cent of UK Living, the women's channel in which Flextech has 31 per cent.

Swapping its stakes in UK Gold and UK Living with Flextech would give Pearson between 5 and 8 per cent of Flextech. At current market prices, that is worth about £50 million.

Neither Flextech nor Pearson will comment on the talks. Flextech is said to be keen on recruiting Pearson as a direct shareholder because Pearson has emerged as a leading source of TV programming. An official close to the talks said: "This would lock in Pearson as a supplier."

Pearson is devoting more re-

sources to television as part of its long-term strategy of focusing on international businesses in the media, entertainment and leisure sectors. Under Greg Dyke, chief executive of Pearson Television, the division is growing especially fast.

The division includes Thames Television, Grundy Worldwide, the producer of *Neighbours*, Financial Times Television, a stake in Channel 5, the production arm of SelectTV, and ACI, the programme distributor in the US.

□ The Mirror Group has joined a

long list of potential bidders for Westminster Press, the regional newspaper company that was put on the auction block by Pearson last month.

However, the Mirror Group is thought to be unwilling to get into a serious bidding war because it is concerned that Westminster's recent circulation losses may be irreversible. Other potential bidders include Independent Newspapers of Ireland and Newsquest, the American-backed group that owns the former Red regional newspapers.

The 600,000 new pr shareholders in Bi Energy, the priva nuclear power gene will receive their certificates through post this week.

Dealing costs mea private investors, who more than half of the billion issue, cannot expect to rises well above the share first instalment.

CBI call

The Government sh make a series of changes, including a in inheritance and ce ration tax, to encourage investment in small fi the Confederation ofish Industry says to CBI leaders call for their steps to "develop climate in which entre neurship and talent flourish".

Output high

Regions that have att ed foreign investment bucking the weak nati trend for manufacturers report by Business St gies, the economics co tancy, says to Scotland, Wales, the Midlands and Nort Ireland, magnets for ward investment, seen relatively strong, put this year.

Pay rising

Pay settlements are following inflation downwards, a new study by Incomes Data Serv the independent pay cialist, says today, latest review of cou wage movements shows averaging 3 to 4 cent, with most worth 3.5 per cent or m

NatWest bill

The National Westmin Bank refused to comment on a report restucturing branches would wipe half-way profits. City lists believe interim ure early next week feature a pre-tax loss of much as £100 million.

Elf denial

Elf, the French oil company, denied a report it has put its UK refin and marketing opera up for sale for more £300 million.

Vital vote on future of Costain

By OUR DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE two Middle East shareholders who control the fate of one of Britain's best-known builders were keeping their silence over the weekend before today's vital annual meeting. If sufficient investors vote today against the refinancing of Costain, the company has said it has no alternative but to call in the receivers.

Between them two Middle East builders, Kharafi of Kuwait and Raymond of Saudi Arabia, hold 38 per cent of the company. The former has said it will vote against the proposals and the Saudi concern is also thought to oppose them.

Kharafi rejects Costain's plans for a £74 million rights issue because this could give up to a 40 per cent stake to Intra, a new Malaysian investor. The company believes the plan would provide the Malaysians with effective control of Costain on the cheap.

Instead the Kuwaitis want a standstill accord with Costain's bankers, to allow for a fresh review of strategy and a new and slower rescue process.

Dealing in Costain's shares has been suspended at the company's request until a financial restructuring to reduce its £76 million debts.

Shareholders ready for test of strength on Greenbury

Two 'fat cat' deals face defeat

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE Greenbury code on corporate practice, and the attempt to cut back on "fat cat" greed, faces its toughest test in a week of heated protest at annual shareholder meetings. At least two generous executive plans face defeat.

The two toughest tests for Greenbury, which lays down stricter controls before executives can pay themselves huge bonuses, both come on Friday. Shareholders of two merged providers of power and water, United Utilities and Hyder, will that day give their verdicts on the incentives, which have sparked strong protest.

United Utilities was created out of the merger of Norweb and North West Water, while Hyder is the renamed Welsh Water and South Wales Electricity. This week, other privatised companies may face tough questioning from shareholders over what directors are paid.

However, geographical distance may play a mitigating role. The meetings for East Midlands Electricity, Southern Electric and National Power are also on Friday, at widely different locations.

Yorkshire Water, where shareholder pressure groups are opposing the appointment of Brandon Gough as chairman, meet the previous day.

Last week the pressure mounted on United, chaired

by Sir Desmond Pitcher, to water down the planned long-term incentives package for executives, which is designed to remunerate them for additional stress and strain resulting from the merger. The company's largest shareholder, Norwich Union, with 3.4 per cent, is opposed to the proposed long-term incentive plan in spite of attempts by Brian Staples, United's chief executive, to broker a peace.

Sources close to United were insisting last night that the opposition, as it had so far emerged, would not be enough to overturn the incentive scheme, which gives directors up to 87.5 per cent of their salary over a three-year period. But pressure groups as influential as the Association of British Insurers and the National Association of Pension Funds, the professional bodies for institutional investors, and Pensions Investment Research Consultants (PIRC) have ruled it unacceptable under the Greenbury code.

They have complained about the sheer complexity of the scheme and the fact that bonuses are triggered if the company outperforms the market as a whole, rather than comparable utilities as required by Greenbury.

As many as a dozen of United's institutional investors are expected to vote against the plan, with others set to abstain. A sufficiently large protest vote, and a defeat for the board, would be an extraordinary coup for the pressure groups. It could also put other such executive remuneration schemes at risk.

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Dole aims to show US he is fit to run for the presidency

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE, who turns 73 today, sought to head off concerns about his age yesterday by disclosing medical records that show him to be in excellent health and full of energy.

If Mr Dole captures the White House in November, he will be the oldest American elected to a first term as President, and only five months younger than Ronald Reagan was at the start of his second term.

Mr Dole's doctors said there was no medical reason why he should not serve two four-year terms. But, in an unprecedent gesture, the Republican challenger said that if serious doubts arose about his mental or physical capacity during his presidency he would willingly undergo an independent medical examination.

This reassurance has been made all the more imperative by the latest *New York Times/CBS News* poll showing that a third of the voters believe Mr Dole's age makes him less able to be an effective President. They worry about his stamina and that he is out of touch with younger Americans.

Mr Dole's health is remarkable, given his medical history and physical limitations. His grievous wounds from the Second World War left him



Dole exercises on a treadmill to stay fit

THE INVASION OF IRELAND HAS BEGUN

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Olympics reopen republican debate

FROM ROGER MAYNARD
IN SYDNEY

PRINCE WILLIAM may be asked to open the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, if Australia's Deputy Prime Minister has his way.

The suggestion from Tim Fischer has reignited the republican debate, which has lost much of its momentum since the election of a conservative Government in March.

The Olympic Games are always opened by the head of state of the host country, which in Australia's case is the Queen, although the Governor-General holds the same position in the Queen's absence.

Many Australian opposition politicians and republicans supporters have made it clear that they do not want to see any royal involvement in the Sydney Olympics. But Mr Fischer said on Australian television yesterday that he would like to see the Queen open the Games, but the second in line to the throne might be an appropriate choice.

"It's all about the future, it's the cusp of a new millennium, perhaps Prince William should try his hand," he said.

Malcolm Turnbull, the chairman of the Australian Republican Movement, said he was astonished by the idea and a Labor Party spokesman said Prince William would be as appropriate as having his mother's lady-in-waiting open the Games.

There are conflicting accounts of whether he gave up smoking in the mid-1980s or early 1980s. He admits to stopping several times and finding the habit difficult to break, despite his recent claim, since withdrawn, that cigarettes are not addictive.

Mr Dole keeps his waistline trim by working out for 20 to 30 minutes three or four days a week on a treadmill and a rowing machine. He sticks to a low-fat, high-fibre diet and tries to go to bed by 10.30pm for seven to eight hours of sleep. He jokes that getting up before 6am "ought to be outlawed". He dyes his hair and his doctors wish he would spend less time working on his sun-tan.

"He has learnt discipline and has a drive to keep his body in tip-top shape," said Charles Peck, his doctor. His commitment to staying healthy came from the 39 months of agonising treatment and rehabilitation for his war wounds.

Mr Dole is described by gerontologists who study aging as "young old", as distinct from "old old", meaning those over 85. Based on the national average, his life expectancy is 10.7 years; Mr Clinton's is 27 years.

Mr Dole told *The Washington Post* that voters need not worry about his health. He said: "If I had a big pot belly and could barely get off the plane and somebody had to help me up on the stage I'd say 'That guy doesn't belong here'. But that's not my problem."

Mr Dole gently needed Mr Clinton, who is 50 next month, saying he would not make health an election issue, even though his cholesterol, weight and blood pressure are all lower than the President's.

Still, there is a generation gap. Mr Dole's favourite music is by the Glenn Miller band and his favourite actor John Wayne.



British canoeist Shaun Pearce proposes to his physiotherapist Julie Stark among their team mates in Atlanta

Medal contender wins heart in Atlanta

FROM JOHN GOODBODY
IN ATLANTA

IT WAS the most public and most romantic of engagements. Before a worldwide television audience and in the emotional fervour of the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games, Shaun Pearce, Britain's canoeing medal hope, proposed to Julie Stark, the team's physiotherapist.

Even since he was selected for the Games two months ago, Mr Pearce had been planning to go down on both knees in the Olympic stadium. For a moment, Miss Stark thought he was ill. She said yesterday: "My first thought was that he

had collapsed. The weather had been so hot and we had to run from the other stadium, where the teams had been marshalled."

However, to the delight of the rest of the 300-strong British contingent, who had marched on Friday night into the packed 81,000 seater stadium, Mr Pearce produced a ring which he had given to one of the coaches for safekeeping.

He said: "I was about to propose to her when all the other British team physiotherapists dragged her off for a photograph. Then the rest of our team wanted to have a picture together, so I reckoned that was the moment to get down on my

knees." Miss Stark said: "Then Shaun asked me to marry him and I think I said, 'Of course I will.' But I'm not sure because it was all such a shock."

The pair met in December 1994 and over the following nine months Mr Pearce received treatment from his future fiancée. Miss Stark said: "I gave him a lot of physiotherapy and when we started to go out my boss said: 'I am not surprised, nobody can have that many injuries.'

Mr Pearce, who is separated from his wife, said the date for the wedding would not be set until the divorce was final.

Olympic reports, pages 28-31

Crash jet's fuselage wreckage found as bomb theory grows

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

A LARGE section of fuselage from the wreckage of TWA Flight 800 has been found in the waters of Long Island and searchers were confident yes-

tinct possibility" of the hunt being turned into a criminal investigation.

This was the furthest any senior administration official has gone publicly to acknowledge a terrorist link since President Clinton warned against jumping to conclusions in the immediate aftermath of the crash.

"We haven't crossed the line yet and it's still premature to call it criminal," said Mr Gore, citing the lack of any hard evidence pointing to the cause of the tragedy. But the FBI and CIA have been working on the assumption of terrorism, and the FBI invited anyone with relevant information anywhere in the world to call its free number, 001 888-245 4636, or to send an e-mail message to twainfo@fbi.gov.

Senators, who were given a secret briefing on the crash in Washington, said it was "almost 100 per cent unlikely" that the cause could be mechanical failure, leaving open the options of a bomb or, conceivably, a small surface-to-air missile.

There is a sense in Washington that the TWA crash could suddenly require Mr Clinton to take swift retaliatory action if a firm link is established to any of the countries that sponsor terrorism, such as Iran, Iraq and Libya.

At Gore, the US Vice-President, who announced the fuselage discovery, also revealed that there was a "dis-

cernation" of the TWA crash could suddenly require Mr Clinton to take swift retaliatory action if a firm link is established to any of the countries that sponsor terrorism, such as Iran, Iraq and Libya.

(B) The Scheme of Arrangement dated 19th July, 1996 (the "Scheme") proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of the Scheme Shares (as defined in the Scheme), and that such meeting will be held at the New Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DA on Tuesday, 13th August, 1996 at 11.00 a.m., at which place and time all holders of Ordinary Shares are requested to attend.

A copy of the said Scheme of Arrangement and a copy of the Statement required to be furnished pursuant to Section 426 of the above-mentioned Act are incorporated in the document of which this Notice forms part.

The holders of Ordinary Shares may vote in person at the said Meeting or they may appoint another person, whether a member of

the Company or not, as their Proxy to attend and vote in their stead.

In the case of joint holders, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote whether in person or by proxy will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members of the Company in respect of the joint holding.

It is requested that forms appointing Proxies be lodged with Lloyds Bank Registrars, 54 Pershore Road South, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3EP not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the said Meeting, but if forms are not so lodged they may be handed to the Chairman of the said Meeting.

By the said Order the Court has appointed Sir Brian Pearce or failing him, George Simpson or failing him John Grant to act as Chairman of the said Meeting and has directed the Chairman to report the results thereof to the Court.

The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.

300 Tutsis die in Burundi massacre

FROM SCOTT STRAUS
IN BURUNDI, JURGEN
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A MASSACRE in central Burundi at the weekend has left at least 300 dead. Journalists who visited the scene at Bungendana reported seeing the bodies after renewed ethnic fighting on Saturday.

"I counted 304 bodies, all of them Tutsis. It was a horrific sight. I also counted 100 injured people who were receiving treatment," one reporter said.

The killings in the Gitega region were blamed by the army on Hutu rebels of the exiled National Council for the Defence of Democracy.

Last night Marc Faguy, the UN special envoy to Burundi, pleaded for urgent steps to end the ethnic carnage which has killed more than 150,000 people in the central African country in the past three years.

"The United Nations, the international community and Burundians can neither keep quiet nor remain neutral in the face of these acts of barbarism," he said.

As the violence in Burundi continues to mount, the future of an African regional peace-keeping force aimed at ending the civil war in the Central African country looks increasingly doubtful. Burundi's Tutsi community is opposing the Western-backed plan and putting pressure on Antoine Nduwayo, the Tutsi Prime Minister, to disavow his support for the idea.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, CHANCERY DIVISION, COMPANIES COURT, No. 003843 of 1996

Mr Registrar Rawson

IN THE MATTER OF LUCAS INDUSTRIES PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that by an Order dated the 12th day of July 1996 made in the above matters the Court has directed a Meeting to be convened of the holders of the Ordinary Shares (hereinafter called "Ordinary Shares") in Lucas Industries plc (hereinafter called the "Company") for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving (with or without modification) a Scheme of Arrangement to be proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of the Scheme Shares (as defined in the said Scheme of Arrangement) and that such meeting will be held at the New Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DA on Tuesday, 13th August, 1996 at 11.00 a.m., at which place and time all holders of Ordinary Shares are requested to attend.

A copy of the said Scheme of Arrangement and a copy of the Statement required to be furnished pursuant to Section 426 of the above-mentioned Act are incorporated in the document of which this Notice forms part.

The holders of Ordinary Shares may vote in person at the said Meeting or they may appoint another person, whether a member of

the Company or not, as their Proxy to attend and vote in their stead.

In the case of joint holders, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote whether in person or by proxy will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members of the Company in respect of the joint holding.

It is requested that forms appointing Proxies be lodged with Lloyds Bank Registrars, 54 Pershore Road South, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3EP not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the said Meeting, but if forms are not so lodged they may be handed to the Chairman of the said Meeting.

By the said Order the Court has appointed Sir Brian Pearce or failing him, George Simpson or failing him John Grant to act as Chairman of the said Meeting and has directed the Chairman to report the results thereof to the Court.

The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.

Dated 19th July, 1996

ALLEN & OVERY
One New Change
London EC4M 9QQ
Solicitors for the Company

Notice of the above-mentioned Meeting was posted to shareholders of Lucas Industries plc on 19th July, 1996.

Copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement, form of proxy and Explanatory Statement required to be furnished pursuant to Section 426 of the Companies Act 1985 can be obtained from the registered office of the Company.

LUCAS INDUSTRIES PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Lucas Industries plc will be held at the New Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DA on Tuesday, 13th August, 1996 at 11.00 a.m. (or as soon thereafter as the Meeting of the holders of the Company's Ordinary Shares convened by direction of the High Court of Justice for the same date and place shall have concluded or been adjourned) for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Resolution which will be proposed as a Special Resolution:

THAT:

(A) The Transaction Agreement dated as of 31st May, 1996 between LucasVarity plc, the Company, Varity Corporation and Varity Combination Corporation relating to the proposed merger of the Company and Varity Corporation (with such modifications or amendments as the Directors of the Company shall determine) be and is hereby approved;

(B) The Scheme of Arrangement dated 19th July, 1996 (the "Scheme") proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of the Scheme Shares (as defined in the Scheme), a print of which has been produced to this Meeting and signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of the Meeting, be approved;

(C) for the purpose of giving effect to the Scheme;

(1) the capital of the Company be reduced by the cancellation of the Scheme Shares and forthwith and contingently upon such reduction of capital taking effect, the capital of the Company be increased to its former amount by the creation of such number of new ordinary shares of 25p each as shall be equal to the number of Scheme Shares cancelled as aforesaid;

(2) the reserve arising upon the said reduction of capital be applied in paying up in full at par the ordinary shares of 25p each created pursuant to sub-paragraph (C)(1) of this resolution, which shall be allotted and issued, credited as fully paid up to LucasVarity plc and/or its nominees;

(D) the Directors be hereby authorised for the purposes of Section 80 of the Companies Act 1985 to effect the allotment of the shares created pursuant to this Resolution provided that (i) the maximum nominal amount of shares which may be allotted hereunder is £237,500,000; (ii) this authority shall expire on 31st December, 1996; and (iii) this authority shall be without prejudice to any authority under the said Section 80 previously granted and in force on the date on which this Resolution is passed; and

(E) the Articles of Association of the Company shall be amended by:

(1) the adoption and inclusion of the following new Article as Article 61B:

"61B (1) In this Article, references to the "Scheme" are to the scheme of arrangement of the Company dated 19th July, 1996 under section 425 of the Companies Act 1985, between the Company and the holders of the Scheme Shares and expressions in the Scheme shall have the same meaning in this Article.

(2) If any Ordinary Shares in the Company are allotted and issued to any person (a "new member") other than a member of the Company, the auditors may determine on any reorganisation of the share capital of the Company or of LucasVarity effected after the close of business on the Effective Date, provided always that any fractions of an ordinary share in LucasVarity shall be disregarded and shall be aggregated and sold for the benefit of LucasVarity.

(3) To give effect to any such transfer required by Article 61B(B), the Company may appoint any person to execute a form of transfer on behalf of the new member in favour of LucasVarity and to agree for and on behalf of the new member to become a member of LucasVarity"; and

(4) the deletion of Article 89 and the renumbering of Articles 90 to 169 (inclusive) as Articles 89 to 168 (inclusive) and all cross references to those Articles shall be amended accordingly.

By ORDER OF THE BOARD

G. M. Norris, Secretary

Registered office:
Stratford Road
Solihull B90 4LA
England

19th July, 1996

Note: Any member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint another person (whether a member or not) as a Proxy to attend and vote on a poll. To be effective, the Form of Proxy must be deposited with Lloyds Bank Registrars, 54 Pershore Road South, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3EP, not later than 11.00 a.m. on 13th August, 1996.

Notice of the above-mentioned Meeting was posted to shareholders of Lucas Industries plc on 19th July, 1996.

THE INVASION OF IRELAND HAS BEGUN

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Left, the Dalai Lama, who has raised environmental concerns during his visit to Britain; above, the threatened Yamdrok lake in central Tibet

Fears for Tibet's sacred lake

Anjana Ahuja investigates the hidden threat to the ecology of Tibet's unique landscape

The rumour started on the Internet. Word was that something had gone seriously wrong with one of China's most controversial projects — the construction of a hydroelectric dam on the shore of the scorpion-shaped Yamdrok Tsao, Tibet's most sacred lake.

According to a press release put out last month by the Washington-based International Campaign for Tibet, the head of the dam project was dismissed after an engineering mishap. Explanations of this mishap varied. One was that not enough power had been put in place to run the turbines. Another report speculated that one of the two shafts linking the lake to the turbines had collapsed, and that the project had been abandoned.

The unconfirmed rumours are a sign of growing concern that, environmentally speaking, Tibet is in peril. The Yamdrok Tsao dam, the workings of which clutter an otherwise pristine setting, has been the focus of frustration, but campaigners claim that Tibet's forests and pastures are also being killed off by overdevelopment.

Construction on the dam, sited 120 miles south of Lhasa, the capital, was begun in 1985 and interrupted for six years because of opposition from senior Tibetans.

change, such as the annual monsoon season. Many of Asia's major rivers, including the Yellow and the Yangtze, have their sources here.

The Tibetan environment is exceptional because it has remained isolated for decades, a testament to the traditional rotation farming methods of the nomads. With an ever-increasing Chinese population, however, the relatively deserted Tibetan wilds made ideal targets for building settlements. Their remoteness also meant that riches, such as timber and minerals, lay unexploited.

Starting with the invasion and occupation of Tibet in 1950, China began to transform the Tibetan landscape. Roads were built, minerals were mined and trees were felled. This has continued for decades.

Such changes, campaigners argue, must be halted before the delicate ecological balance of the region is wrecked. But the ecologists face one big drawback — their cause is deeply entangled in Tibet's political and religious problems.

The Yamdrok Tsao project was a

prime example of this ideological clash. Officials said the hydroelectric power plant was designed to supply much-needed electricity to a swelling population.

The Free Tibet Campaign, in London, which lobbied vigorously for the project to be dropped, complained that the settlers have disrupted life for the nomads who have traditionally inhabited the lake's shores. Critics say it is part of a conspiracy to destroy Tibetan culture, an unsavoury objective symbolised by the suppression of Buddhism.

The inextricable linking of political and environmental concerns was evident during several events held last week to mark the Dalai Lama's visit to Britain, during which he raised environmental concerns.

However, this political edge to the debate means that reliable facts about environmental matters are scarce. Deforestation is a particularly thorny issue — the Tibetan Information Network estimates that a quarter of accessible forests in China, and Tibet, have already been felled. The problem, say

campaigners, is that Tibet's forest

ry bureau is not keeping a close eye

on logging operations. The bureau

replies criticism by releasing an

annual communiqué giving details

of prosecutions for environmental

damage.

Its statement says that the rate of

replanting has accelerated in recent

years, but makes no mention of

whether this matches the speed at

which mature trees, some more

than a century old, are being felled.

It also omits to say whether

replanting is successful.

Grazing land also appears to be

disappearing at an alarming rate.

"The Chinese say that the nomads' cattle are overstepping the pasture land," Mr Barnett says. "However, the Chinese destroyed many mo-

die-sized mammals, which has led

to an explosion in the number of rodents."

The marmot, a tiny mammal with a voracious appetite for grass roots, is suspected to be

the main culprit.

The threat to the jewel in Asia's

crown is beginning to attract

worldwide attention, aided, it may

be said, by several photographs

celebrities allying themselves to the

Tibetan cause.

As the Dalai Lama left Britain yesterday, he will have

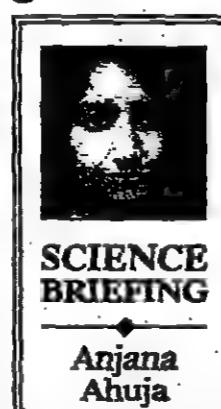
been among thousands hoping that

when he next visits, there will be

something to celebrate.

Heart researchers are hoping the unique transparent embryo of the zebrafish will yield vital clues to human development

Silent Heart's fishy secrets



SILENT Heart, a zebrafish embryo encased in an egg, is one of the more beautiful mysteries of the animal kingdom. Why is it so appealing? Because both embryo and egg are completely transparent, allowing biologists to gaze in wonder as this crystalline gem unfolds into a living, breathing fish.

Except that Silent Heart, perfect in every other way, will never make it. Because of an unexplained mutation in the embryo, its heart does not beat. The mutant was given its name by Dr Didier Stainier, a developmental biologist at the University of California in San Francisco. He is among several researchers in America pioneering the use of zebrafish as tools for studying heart development, with a view to deepening our understanding of the human heart and its diseases.

These Zebra fish, native to India, spawn crystal-clear embryos which allow every tiny change to be mapped, so that anything awry can be detected as soon as it happens. Fertilisation takes place outside the mother's body, so the embryo is visible from the moment of conception. The baby fish develops very quickly. Less than a day after fertilisation, ears and eyes are

discernible, the tail wiggles and the heart beats. Two days later all the major organs are fully formed and in place. Sexual maturity is reached two to three months later.

The mutations can be natural, or generated by irradiation. As well as Silent Heart, a natural mutation, Dr Stainier has been able to produce a Cloche mutation, so-called because the abnormal heart is shaped like a bell. Other natural defects include Miles Apart, and Bonde and Clyde. Both lead to the formation of two hearts, one on each side of the body. "Something goes wrong at a very early stage in putting the left and right sides of the embryo together," Dr Stainier says. The

two defects, which were christened by Dr Stainier's co-workers correspond to the two rogue genes responsible.

Other establishments, notably the University of Oregon, have interfered with the fish to produce truly bizarre creatures.

Cyclops mutants, so named because their eyes are fused together, are a speciality, as are Spadefins, humpbacked specimens whose muscles have migrated to the wrong way.

The contribution of zebrafish to research is invaluable, since the underlying cellular processes which govern development of the body are shrouded in mystery. They are also cheap, easy to look

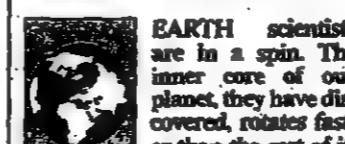
after, plentiful, grow quickly and are simple to manipulate in the laboratory. Dr Stainier is part of an international effort to exploit this newfound, living tool. Together with scientists at the Cardiovascular Research Centre at Massachusetts General Hospital, where Dr Stainier formerly worked, he has compiled a glossary of 58 mutations which occur in the first 24 hours after fertilisation. This research, and that of another team at the Max-Planck Institute in Tuebingen, Germany, will appear in a special issue of the journal *Development* later this year.

Dr Stainier says that the first day of a zebrafish embryo's life corresponds to the first 21 days of life for a human embryo. But how can scientists possibly compare zebrafish to humans? "We are fairly certain that the same genes are involved in mutations both in the fish and in humans," he says. "For example, we have made the transition from flies to humans. It is much easier to make the jump from zebrafish to humans."

The next step is to uncover all possible heart mutations and identify the genes responsible.

"We should be able to do this, and compare them to human genes within ten years," he says.

Spinning an Earth riddle



EARTH scientists are in a spin. The inner core of our planet, they have discovered, rotates faster than the rest of it.

In fact, the core "laps" the rest of the Earth every 330 years. This century has seen the inner core perform a quarter-turn relative to everything else.

The inner core is a lump of solid iron. It is anisotropic (not perfectly uniform) — this means that shock waves generated by earthquakes and travelling at different angles take different lengths of time to emerge on the other side of the globe.

Xiaodong Song and Paul Richards, from the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University, New York, looked at these time differences for shock waves going back 30 years. They found they could map the way this irregular core moved around, and concluded it was spinning at 11 degrees a year relative to everything else. This means the outside of this inner core is moving at a few tens of kilometres every year

— at least 100,000 times faster than the speediest continental drift. Experts say this is no mere curiosity. The inner core spins inside a molten outer core. Small eddies in this outer core set up electrical currents, which in turn set up a magnetic field. This "magnetic dynamo" generates the Earth's magnetic field.

The finding, published in *Nature*, could thus solve a riddle which has taxed ramblers and scientists alike — why the magnetic poles drift around. It may also explain why the terrestrial magnetic field seems to flip every 100,000 years.

Deadly spider games



FIRST cannibalism, and now infanticide. Yes, it's another sorry tale of domestic disarray that has shocked the world.

This time it involves male erisid spiders from the Negev desert in Israel. Those males which are slow off the mark during the mating season are unlikely to find a female that has not mated. So they resort to

kidnapping her offspring and killing them.

Why? Fighting a female — and winning — forces the female to replace her brood. She will mate with the aggressor to produce a new brood, so his strategy pays off. Another reason is that, on average, a male erisid spider encounters only one female during the mating season. So passing up the opportunity means he is unlikely to mate at all.

Writing in *Nature* recently, Jutta Schneider and Yael Lubin, from the Ben Gurion University of the Negev, revealed that infanticide worked its charm a third of the time. The females, which are bigger, chased the chaps off in half the cases.

However, brutality does not always bring rewards. The later a male mates, the less likely he is to become a father. This is because the sperm of his predecessors is likely to have fertilised her eggs. Late offspring are also less likely to survive, because food — small insects — is scarcer.

The other habit of the erisid spider is hair-raising. Matricide is a normal part of family life — offspring kill and eat their mother within three weeks of hatching.

Nigel Hawkes is on holiday

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Is our countryside adapting to the Nineties? Giles Coren and Jason Cowley talk to today's
The changing face of country life



PHILIPPA HUME

Philippa Hume, 30, a project consultant, is the only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hume, of Shimpling Hall, Shimpling, Suffolk

I have lived in Bath, Hampshire, Kent, Surrey and now Suffolk, but always in the country. This is a very secluded spot, there is nothing but us and a church at

When in the late 1920s Evelyn Waugh wrote about his Bright Young Things, ruthlessly pursuing pleasure, the country house party was a constant of the social circuit, defined by a fixed code of etiquette, dress and manners.

This weekend, though, as a new generation of Bright Young Things sets off for the latest round of summer parties, many will have packed not only their ballgowns and bow-ties, but also their tents and trainers. For the English country house party has been invaded by "festival" culture. The transformation is quite startling.

While the embers of the traditional house party are fanned by society hostesses such as Lady Christie de la Rue, of Aynon Castle, and Aline Hay, of Durn Castle, a new generation of landowners is opening up its estates to an eclectic mix of aristocrats, urban sophisticates and show-business personalities.

The new-style parties, though different in externals, have a family resemblance. This is how they work. Stylised invitations are sent out, together with a map of how to find the house, usually two months before the day of the party. A typical host is usually the twenty-something son or daughter of country house-owning parents who

the end of the garden. I still come here about twice a month, but nothing much has changed, except for the shopping. You used to have to go miles to a supermarket, now we are only ten minutes from Tesco. Village life doesn't seem to have been much altered. It is great to come up here with a few friends to get away from the smoke and chill out.

So far, so conventional you might think, and you would be right were it not for a strange phenomenon: the guests sleep not in one of the house's many rooms but outside in the extensive grounds, hence the tents.

When, for instance, the Earl of St Germans held a party last summer at his stately home in Cornwall, guests were invited to an "In-tents Affair". Andrew Harris, 28, who works for BZW and was at the party, says: "It was a fantastic idea. You could pitch your tent anywhere in the grounds. We used the tents to change into our evening wear; it was great fun watching the girls doing their make-up in the rear-view mirror of their cars. Then, at seven o'clock, everyone emerged to stroll down towards the house for champagne and canapés."

Invitations usually offer specific guidelines on dress. The scientist Michael Barrett, a regular at the parties, says: "Sometimes it is black-tie, but,

more often than not, you are asked to dress exotically, or in fancy dress. But as the evening progresses, and the air cools, people opt for jumpers and T-shirts."

A banquet of hors-d'oeuvres, roast meats, spiced chicken, smoked fish, elaborate salads and rich puddings is usually served in a marquee at which guests are seated at round tables. There is a range of entertainment, from live music to traditional circus attractions, like fire-eating and juggling. Older guests are not excluded: a jazz band or a small orchestra may start the dancing for the evening, before the unrelenting electronic dance music begins at midnight.

When fatigue finally sets in, guests can be found wandering the grounds, or relaxing around large bonfires swapping

joking stories and savouring the exotic scents — and that's not just smoke from the bonfire. A feature of the old country house parties was the illicit late-night activity as amorous men and girls flitted to and from each other's rooms. So one thing, at least, hasn't changed: the heady atmosphere encourages casual intimacy among people who may not know each other's names.

The following morning the scene resembles nothing so much as a battlefield, with the ravages of the night before — bottles, stilettos, discarded costumes, sleeping bodies — scattered across the lawn. As

and ask them to clear up the mess," says Ali Redman, a 24-year-old entrepreneur, who holds regular parties at his parents' country house in Hertfordshire.

Andrew Harris has been invited to bring his tent to another country house party next weekend. "What I like about these parties is that they reflect the trend in going to raves and festivals. Guests want to dress up, eat and drink well, socialise in glamorous and exclusive surroundings. But they also want to dance outside until dawn, sit around a huge fire and escape from stresses of city life."

Sara Logie, 25, a buyer for House of Fraser, has been to country house parties in the modern style at many big houses, including Kimberley in Norfolk and Longleat in Wiltshire. "The party at Kimberley was especially memorable. We all pitched our tents in the fabulous grounds that ran down to a lake."

"Each room in the basement of the house had its own themed decoration. There were two huge marquees; food was served in one, live music played in the other."

The Marquess of Bath says that while guests at his Longleat parties never sleep in tents, he encourages spontaneity. "I support change. The country house party has to evolve in order to survive," he says.

In *Debrett's Guide to Entertaining* (Headline, £7.99), Charles Mosley writes that the

A personal view from three girls who have featured recently in *Country Life* magazine's weekly portrait



EMMA BADDELEY

Emma Baddeley, 23, a freelance picture editor, is the youngest daughter of Sir John Baddeley, Bt, of Springwood, Sullington, West Sussex, and of Sara, Lady Baddeley, of Storrington, West Sussex

The countryside has certainly got a lot smaller. Housing estates, rubbish dumps

and quarries are encroaching all the time, and the places I knew when I was little are disappearing from the sand-pits to the places I went with my mother to walk the dog. There are new roads, and worst of all, great piles of concrete on the beach as sea-defences. The place stinks of sewage — the day the picture was taken could hardly bear to breathe.



SOPHIE HARRISON

Sophie Harrison, 28, a writer/editor for *Horse and Hound*, is the second daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Harrison of Icken Stoke Mill, Alresford, Hampshire

Apart from an increase in the number of cyclists and swans, and the decline of water levels, the biggest change has been

road building. Walk a mile in any direction and you will come to an extension of the M3 or A31. On a positive note, more care is being taken over the water-meadows which constitute the house's 80 acres. It is a protected site now, and volunteers come down to look after the land. We just give them a cup of tea and a spade, and they get on with it.

country house party is perhaps the single most arduous activity for any hostess: "You have to be permanently on your toes ... your guests will become scattered and you should patrol the property, incessantly to make sure they are all enjoying themselves."

Lucy Drinkwater, who is hosting a party with her father next week at their country house in Cambridgeshire, agrees that big summer parties can be arduous, but says that having guests sleep outside in tents or in a barn reduces anxiety. "You don't have the worry of accidents and damage occurring inside the house. I think the guests also enjoy the novelty of sleeping outside."

Partygoer and writer Candida Whitmore, 26, says: "You have to have money to participate. It is usually only the rich or very posh who are invited to these parties."

So, if you are outside smart society, is there any chance of ever being invited? "It's very hard if you are outside the group," Candida says. "But if you hang round Tavistock Square off Portobello, or eavesdrop at the Duke of Wellington pub on Ladbrooke Grove over the weekend, you might get to hear of one."

JASON COWLEY

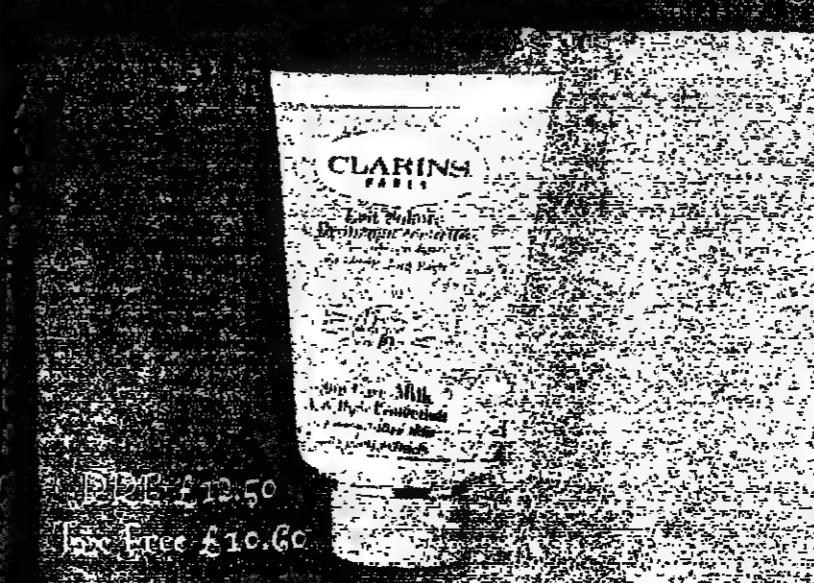
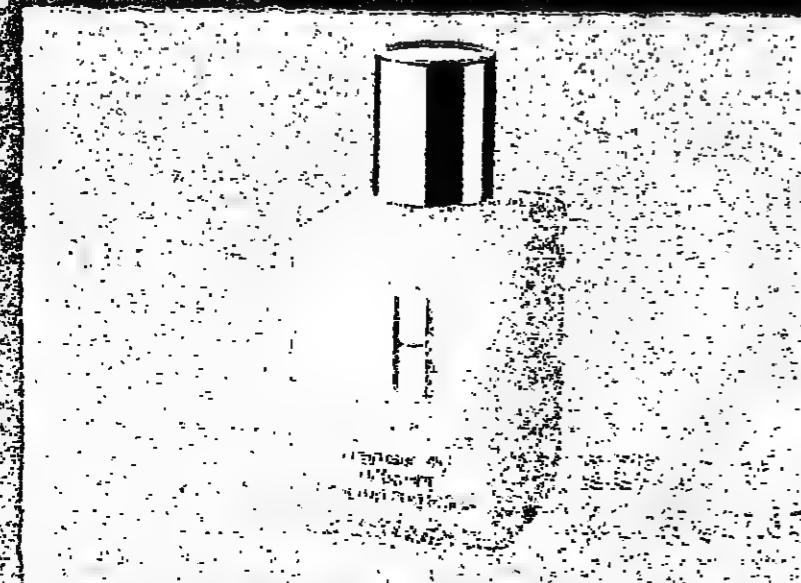
Black ties, ballgowns — and bring a tent

THE NEW COUNTRY HOUSE PARTIES



A weekend under canvas: guests arrive with tents for a country house party

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



MUSICAL

Songs of the flesh: *Voyeur*, the nude musical, opens at the Whitehall Theatre
FIRST NIGHT: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



THEATRE

In Stratford the RSC premieres Richard Nelson's latest play, *The General from America*
FIRST NIGHT: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



DANCE

Stamping his mark: Michael Flatley's Celtic show, *Lord of the Dance*, comes to the Coliseum
OPEN: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



MUSIC

Authentic touch: John Eliot Gardiner conducts Beethoven's Choral Symphony at the Barbican
CONCERT: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday

LONDON

BBC PROMS 96: Yan Pascal Tortelier mounts the rostrum to conduct the BBC Proms in Robert Hollingsworth's orchestra. Includes Debussy's *La Mer* and Ravel's *Bacchus at Ariane*. After the interval, the entrancing Christian Lindberg plays Debussy's *Clair de Lune* and Concerto, which pays homage to the comedian Tony Hancock, and Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition at the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 2212; Tues 7pm, Sat 8pm).

CONFUSIONS: Alan Ayckbourn's sixth comedy after a long run of *Confusions* at the Lyric Hammersmith, which pays homage to the comedian Tony Hancock, and Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition at the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 2212; Tues 7pm, Sat 8pm).

STRINGS FAMILY: The Clearys put on a show at the Lyric Hammersmith, featuring a collection of five short plays. Garry Tudor Price directs Christopher Timbs' *All Creatures Great and Small* and Graham Sutcliffe's *Wise Crackers* (Graham Sutcliffe's *Crackers*) (0171-463 8877; Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm; mat. Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm).

AN IDEAL HUSBAND: Michael Redgrave's classic play about a married woman in the Henry James tale of *An Ideal Husband* (with Helen Gordon, Daniel J. Travane, Morna Little, Wynne Evans, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1747; Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mat. Wed, Sun, 8pm).

BIRDY: David Hare's best play since *Play* is a heartbreaking look at a broken, oddly linked but now adapted for the stage by Niamh Walsh. Kevin Knight directs Tam Wilcox and Helen Sherrill (0171-281 7816; Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Sat, 4.30pm, Until August 17).

THE LIGHT: New play by Hawa Kordi, author of the superbly light *Search and Destroy*, features a man who has been sent to purgatory. Ian Rickson directs a verse production, with the audience on the stage watching the action in the auditorium (0171-730 1745; Opens tonight, 7pm; Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Sat, 3.30pm, Until August 31).

PASSION: An unconvincing musical from Sonneman, but Marla Fredman gives a good performance as a tormented man-hunter who gets her man. With Michael Bell

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

BALLADS: piano, cb, cl, fl, cl, b, soloist: Alexander Balanescu, as soloist: South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242; Tonight 8.30pm).

ELSEWHERE

BRIGHTON: Dennis Waterman, Gerald Harper and Moyra Watson star with master comedian Eric Sykes in Francis Veber's hilarious comedy *Fool's Rush In* (0171-223 2000; Sat 8pm; Admitted and directed by Ray Cooney) (Theatre Royal, New Road (01273 324849; Tonight Sat, 7.45pm; mat. Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm).

MANCHESTER: Michael Flatley, the dancer who made the world take notice of the traditional expression of *Manicore*. His *Flamenco Nuevo* is performed by a company of tour guides, accompanied by musicians playing the fiddle, cajon, castanets and recession (Memorial Hall, Marlowe College, Bath Road (01872 212 656); Tonight, 8pm).

SYNTHETIC: The renowned Greek theatre company *Theatiki Leisch* presents its

critically acclaimed production of *Antigone*, performed in ancient Greek. Directed by Michael Weller (St. John's College, St Giles Street (01865 798 600); Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mat. Sat, 2.30pm).

REBEGATE: An all-Vaughan Williams concert at St Mary's Church, featuring the poet William Blake, the Elements (0171-323 2526; Goethe Institut, Georg Bätsch's Engravings, Woodcuts and Linocuts 1665-1992 (0171-411 3400); London, 10pm; Sat 8pm; Sun 11am; The Kensingtton and Chelsea Arts' Exhibition (0171-602 3316); Lissom Gallery, Victor Burge, 3316; Rodney Graham, 2778; National Gallery (0171-747 2885); National Portrait Gallery, Family Albums (0171-306 0055); Tate, Leon Kossoff (0171-887 8000); V & A William Morris (0171-305 5500).

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Eve Arnold in *Retrospect* (0171-638 1411); Brummell Gallery, Victorian Art (0171-323 2070); *Concerts in The Elements* (0171-323 2526); Goethe Institut, Georg Bätsch's Engravings, Woodcuts and Linocuts 1665-1992 (0171-411 3400); London, 10pm; Sat 8pm; Sun 11am; The Kensingtton and Chelsea Arts' Exhibition (0171-602 3316); Lissom Gallery, Victor Burge, 3316; Rodney Graham, 2778; National Gallery (0171-747 2885); National Portrait Gallery, Family Albums (0171-306 0055); Tate, Leon Kossoff (0171-887 8000); V & A William Morris (0171-305 5500).

THE ASPERN PAPERS: Michael Redgrave's classic play about a married woman in the Henry James tale of *An Ideal Husband* (With Helen Gordon, Daniel J. Travane, Morna Little, Wynne Evans, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1747; Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Sat, 4.30pm, Until August 17).

AN IDEAL HUSBAND: Peter Hall's acclaimed Haymarket production, with Diane Fletcher, David Rintoul, Nicky Henson, Kim Thomson, Sophie Walker and the ensemble (Old Vic, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (0171-228 7816); Mon-Sat, 8.30pm; mat. Wed and Sat, 3pm).

BIRDY: David Hare's best play since *Play* is a heartbreaking look at a broken, oddly linked but now adapted for the stage by Niamh Walsh. Kevin Knight directs Tam Wilcox and Helen Sherrill (0171-281 7816; Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Sat, 4.30pm, Until August 17).

THE LIGHT: New play by Hawa Kordi, author of the superbly light *Search and Destroy*, features a man who has been sent to purgatory. Ian Rickson directs a verse production, with the audience on the stage watching the action in the auditorium (0171-730 1745; Opens tonight, 7pm; Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Sat, 3.30pm, Until August 31).

PASSION: An unconvincing musical from Sonneman, but Marla Fredman gives a good performance as a tormented man-hunter who gets her man. With Michael Bell

THEATRE GUIDE

January: Director's assessment of theatre shows in London

■ House full, returns only

■ Some seats available

■ Seats at all prices

GAMER'S: Gresham Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5500; Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat. Wed and Sat, 8pm).

RICHARD III: David Troughton plays the king as a psychopathic court jester in Steven Berkoff's arresting production, up from Stratford (Stratford, Six Street, EC2 (0171-488 8891); Tonight and tomorrow, 7.15pm; Sat, 8pm).

BALAD DAYS: Julian Clary's tuneful musical, directed by Ned Sherrin (Nicki Fuhrman and Simon Connolly play the young lovers in a company that also includes the ensemble) (Vauxhall, Strand, WC2 (0171-228 9887); Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Wed, 8.30pm, Thurs, 2.30pm).

VOYURE: English band Brian Eno and a cast of 18 illustrate a young girl's search to find her sexual identity in New York, Billed as a follow-up to the once-famous nudge radio, *CBGB* (Calcutta, Whitechapel, SW3 (0171-369 0055); Tues 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm).

STANLEY: Interesting Paul Gemm play, with Arthur Sheer a persuasive Stanley Spencer, inspired by Coshern, produced by National (Cottesloe, South Bank, SE1 (0171-488 2232); Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm; mat. Tue, 2.30pm).

THIS LITTLE TREE BOWER: Cluney seduction and a shambolic crime feature an award-winning Conor McPherson's new play set in an Irish seaside town. Funny and touching

BEATLES: Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388; Mon-Sat, 8pm).

TOMMY: Hugely impressive staging of the rock opera, complete with pinball wizard. Loads of electronic ticks disrupt the immodesty. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-937 3300; Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Sat, 2.30pm).

WILDE AND AMY: Kath Whaley, Timothy West, Peter Vaughan and nine excellent others in Reginald Rose's celebrated jury-room drama (Comedy, Portman Street (0171-369 7781); Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Wed, 8.30pm).

ALICE IN WONDERLAND: Julian Clary's tuneful musical, directed by Ned Sherrin (Nicki Fuhrman and Simon Connolly play the young lovers in a company that also includes the ensemble) (Vauxhall, Strand, WC2 (0171-228 9887); Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Wed, 8.30pm, Thurs, 2.30pm).

THE TIT AND THE MOON: The sexual development of a nine-year-old boy. Unexpected magic from Catesby (see *Reviews* page 10).

MUPPET TREASURE ISLAND: Jim Henson's *Jim Henson's Muppet Treasure Island* (UK) (ABC-TV, 8pm, 27 July). *Cluney* addition to the Muppet movie saga, with Tim Curry (Director), Brian Henson (Producer) (ABC-TV, 8pm, 27 July).

MONDO LIGHT: *Grease* (1978)

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL: Love and clichés in a television newsmagazine. Paper-thin romantic drama with Michelle Pfeiffer and Robert Redford (Dir., Producers) (Sunday (01992 888 990); Tuesdays (0171-434 0055); Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre)

CINEMA GUIDE

Goeff Brown's assessment of films in London and Britain launched with the magazine on release screens the country

Director, Leslie Lanks, Gallerie, Prince Charles (0171-437 8181)

PRIMAL FEAR: Cocky defence attorney Richard Gere gets sucked into a deadly game of cat-and-mouse with a serial killer (Directed by Gregory Hoblit; Plaza (01992 885 990))

SECRET & LIE: Mike Leigh's

CARNIVAL: An uneven but absorbing look about family life. With Brenda Blethyn and Timothy West (Directed by Stephen Daldry; ABC-Capital Street (0171-369 0051))

SMOKING: Chaz Ebert's

THE LINE BETWEEN LOVE AND HATE: Dull, clumsy comedy about a woman who wants to leave her husband (Directed by John Cusack; Warner Bros (0171-434 0031))

THE TIT AND THE MOON: The sexual development of a nine-year-old boy. Unexpected magic from Catesby (see *Reviews* page 10).

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL: Love and clichés in a television newsmagazine. Paper-thin romantic drama with Michelle Pfeiffer and Robert Redford (Dir., Producers) (Sunday (01992 888 990); Tuesdays (0171-434 0055); Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre)

NEW RELEASES

LEISURE: (15) Misleading adventure of French layabout. Weak comedy by Pierre Salvadori, with François Cluzet and Gérard Depardieu (0171-470 4470; MGM Threader (0171-434 0031))

HARRY GOLDMINE: Blue-collar guy gets the girl. So-so vehicle for a graying television comic. Adam Sandler, Dennis Hopper, Dennis Dugan.

MGM Threader (0171-434 0031)

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME: (16) Victor Hugo meets the Disney gang. A perverse and perversely successful maso of the court and beasties. Directors, Gary Trousdale and Kirk Wise.

STARLIGHT EXPRESS: (16) The lastest show in Earth

THE COMEDY OF HUMOUR: (16) The lastest show in Earth

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED): (16) The lastest show in Earth

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF OSCAR WILDE: (16) The lastest show in Earth

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■ BOOKS

Churchill on Churchill: young Winston portrays Randolph in *His Father's Son*
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday



■ JAZZ

Dawn Upshaw brings classic American songs to the Albert Hall in a late-night Prom
CONCERT: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday



■ FILM

In the eye of the storm: *Twister* follows a tornado across the United States
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ POP

Bryan Adams, Canada's favourite rocker, lays it on the line at Wembley Stadium
GIG: Saturday
REVIEW: Monday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY IN SECTION 2

BBC PROMS: Grandiose Verdi opera and stylish Haydn oratorio on the opening weekend of the 1996 season

Nothing beats an auto-da-fé

Don Carlos
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Hajink had to dampen applause where it held the drama up. The galleries were put to good use for offstage effects.

The Prom forces were largely those of a new recording, just "in the can". But the recording's Elisabeth, Galina Gorchakova, was replaced here at the eleventh hour by Sylvie Valayre. Though one would rather have heard Valayre sing the role in her native French, she brought warm Mediterranean tone to the part and sang with touching directness. Richard Margison's *Don Carlos* matched her in his emotionally charged singing; with a little more colour his strong Italianate tenor could be very exciting.

As Posa, Dmitry Hvorostovsky gave one of his best recent performances, his long lines compensating for a slightly constricted baritone sound and his belief in the character making the death scene deeply moving. Olga Borodina brought glamorous but unvarying tone to her Eboli. Roberto Scanduzzi was a dignified Philip, but Robert Lloyd not chilling enough as the Grand Inquisitor.

Most of these issues became unimportant in such a thrilling performance as Bernard Haitink and his Royal Opera orchestra and chorus gave here. He paced the opera with steady propulsion. Passages of intimate tenderness came across well, and the brazen magnificence of the auto-da-fé drove the Prommers into a frenzy, so much so that

JOHN ALLISON

Cheap and filling

PROMISES PROMISES
Bridewell, EC4

FRINGE musicals are more fun. Million-dollar sets and dozens of dancing girls rarely send me skipping around crying: "My, that's bucked me up." But at the Bridewell Theatre, a converted swimming pool down a tiny lane off Fleet Street, I found it a thousandfold more heartwarming to watch a Broadway show done on a shoestring.

The Bridewell's season of lesser-known American musicals is kicked off by the Manhattan Project theatre company's production of *Promises Promises*, the 1960s New York sex comedy about office affairs scored by Burt Bacharach and scripted by Neil Simon.

Our hero, Chuck Baxter, is a Mr Nobody in the accounts department, ambitiously going late but going nowhere. He is sweet on Fran from the cafeteria, but she is only crazy about him when we slip into his fantasies. Meanwhile, the company's executives, realising Baxter is a soft touch, avail themselves of his one-bedroom apartment for extramarital hanky panky with a constant stream of secretaries.

Even Sheldrake, the boss, joins the queue, promising promotion but, to Baxter's dismay, having a fling with Fran. Happily, of course, the right guy and gal see the error of their former ways and get together in the end.

You can certainly pick holes in this show. The three-strong "orchestra" can sound repetitively percussive, and drowns a few songs. Marcus Allen

KATE BASSETT

DONALD COOPER



From left: Jonathan Clarkson, Marcus Allen Cooper, Simon Clark and Jon Oxbaldston in *Promises Promises*



Andrew Davis conducted a stylish if not exciting performance of Haydn's *Creation* to open the Proms

In the beginning

The Creation
Albert Hall/Radio 3

It is not hard to guess why Haydn's *The Creation* was chosen to launch this particular Proms season. The oratorio, an epic testament to Enlightenment ideals, opens in a mist of chromatic harmonies: the "Representation of Chaos". But ten minutes later all that is swept away. In the purest A major the chorus sings of the "new world" that "springs up at God's command".

Well, the Proms are something of a new world this year, with a fresh director, Nicholas Kenyon, to guide them into their second century. And although his innovations may not yet add up to a Garden of Eden, they indicate a welcome determination to extend the Proms' reputation for friendly accessibility.

This concert, televised live on BBC2, was by and large a fine advertisement. Andrew Davis conducted a performance that was smartly controlled, stylish and often beautiful — though never as exciting as it should have been.

That may have been partly because the work was sung in German, even though Haydn was inspired to write it by English choirs

and an English libretto. Benjamin Britten always insisted on performing the Bach Passions in a language the audience understood, and *The Creation* is just as much a "storytelling" work. It demands a direct link to the listener.

Perhaps if the soloists had warmed to their roles earlier the drama would have seemed more gripping. But Julianne Banse, Hans Peter Blochwitz and Wolfgang Schöne never displayed the big personalities needed in this hall.

However, the BBC Symphony Orchestra often played delightfully, particularly when delivering pungent cameos of the creepy-crawlies in Haydn's Garden of Eden. And the BBC Symphony Chorus, though a bit thin on tenors, raced through the fugues with crackling verve.

RICHARD MORRISON

• This review appeared in later editions on Saturday

"MARTIN GUERRE HAS PUT THE WHOLE OF THE WEST END BACK ON ITS FEET... CAMERON MACKINTOSH HAS COME UP WITH THE MUSICAL THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE NINETIES" SUNDAY TIMES "THE MOST EXCITING AND DEVASTATING NEW MUSICAL TO OPEN IN LONDON FOR AGES. A REAL TRIUMPH" DAILY MAIL "FOR THE THIRD TIME IN A DECADE ALAIN BOUBLIL & CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG (CREATORS OF LES MISÉRABLES AND MISS SAIGON) HAVE WRITTEN A GREAT AND CLASSIC MUSICAL. WHEN THEY COME TO WRITE THE HISTORY OF OUR THEATRE THEY WILL REALISE THAT ONE TEAM OUTCLASSED IN AMBITION AND OFTEN ALSO IN ACHIEVEMENT EVEN THAT OF RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN AND LERNER & LOEWE. BOUBLIL & SCHÖNBERG GIVE WHAT BOUBLIL & US ARE GREAT HEARTBREAKING SOARING SCORES BOOKS, OVERWHELMING STAGING & LAVISH STAGING A MASTERPIECE OF MYSTERY. THEIR MARTIN GUERRE IS UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT AN AUDIENCE REALLY WANTS OF A MAJOR MUSICAL REMAINS UNCHALLENGED, UNDIMMED & UNRIVALLED"

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Matthew Parris



If we all put off until 2000 what we could have done today, we shall all run out of excuses simultaneously

For some time I have been contemplating buying a new encyclopaedia. True, my 1950's set of *Britannica* serves me well for most purposes; little of importance has been discovered or invented since the Second World War. There is information technology, I suppose, but of the last five centuries, the 20th must be the only one in which a clairvoyant could stand at its dawn, look towards its dusk, and find the landscape so familiar: automobiles, gas and electricity, collars and ties, trains, Georgian-style houses and women in silly hats.

Still, I thought, one deserves a new encyclopaedia every fifty years. But then I hesitated. Why not wait until the year 2000? A *Britannica* with "1996" on it — an edition with nineteen-anything on it — is doomed to age very suddenly at midnight on December 31, 1999. A 2000 *Britannica* will appear fresher for longer.

The same thought occurred as I considered replacing my Debrett's *People of Today* (1993) and my *Who's Who* (1989). These volumes do not come cheap, and few

There will be a polishing and a dusting such as never was before

By extension, the

jobs pages of the newspapers may be unusually full over the first year of the millennium.

So will the order-books of fitted-kitchen manufacturers. That long-postponed decision to buy a new kitchen, recarpet the bedroom or redecorate the lounge may meet for many, its final postponement in the thought "let's put it off until the next century". As the clock strikes midnight, the last excuse will crumble.

People will be giving up chocolate, giving up drinking, giving up their husbands, becoming vegetarians or — in my case — sweeping under the fridge, a job I've postponed for five years already. Quentin Crisp may dust his flat.

I may buy a new suit. My Land Rover, which I've vowed to keep on the road until the end of the century, will finally be allowed to fail its MOT. Perhaps it will be the time to write a novel, start an autobiography, walk the Pennine Way or sail around the world. Or the time to fix that tap.

There will be such a stocktaking, a dusting and polishing, and a reorganising of the bookcase as never was. Johnson's will sell out of Pledge. There will be an end, at last, to procrastination.

Tomorrow is the day that never comes. But the end of a century does come and is coming. The world's biggest excuse is running out.

Royal luck

MARTIN BASHIR, the journalist who brought the Princess of Wales to confession in the world's living rooms, is so disenchanted with the BBC that he is on the verge of quitting for a career in America. The architect of the corporation's biggest scoop in years is said to be close to despair at vicious backbiting that has frustrated his every move since the *Panorama* broadcast last year brought him international renown.

Bashir is giving serious consideration to lucrative offers from American networks after seeing his options knocked down in Britain. When *Panorama* returns in the autumn, it will be almost a year since he appeared. Last month, a plan for him to present *The One O'Clock News* was mysteriously dropped by BBC bosses, who offered a limp excuse about difficulties with staff rotas. This followed speculation that stories about Bashir creating false documents for use in a programme were part of a smear campaign by envious colleagues within the BBC.

Friendly say his relations with some of the reporters are now so poor that he no longer works out of

the office. Occasionally he is to be seen borrowing a desk in other, more hospitable corners of Television Centre.

"Martin is in a mess, it has all gone wrong since the interview with Diana," says a colleague. "I would not be at all surprised to see him go. He got the biggest scoop of the decade and now he has to skulk about avoiding jealous colleagues."



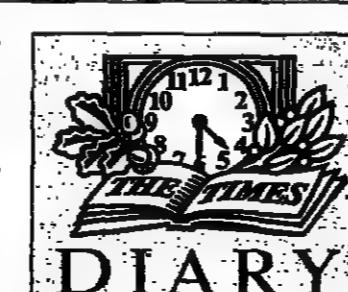
Suzanne Charlton says no more than 35 minutes of sun

To commemorate the bicentenary of the death of Robert Burns, literary pilgrims descended on Burns Cottage, Alloway, yesterday. Organisers of a photoshoot had tracked down Robbie's great great grandson, retired RAF Group Captain Richard Gowing, 56. Few poetic genes have survived the generations. "I have no strong interest in Burns, and I couldn't tell you a line from any of his poems," he said cheerfully.

Right on track

POLITICS are casting a shadow over the running track in Sheffield where the Hallamshire Harriers, the athletics club which nurtured Sebastian Coe, is preparing to celebrate its centenary next month. Old Labour forces on the club committee are protesting at the decision to invite Coe, winner of two Olympic 1,500-metre gold medals and now a Tory MP, to be guest of honour at a lavish banquet to mark the occasion. There is talk of a boycott.

"Some of the members complained that Seb's politics are not the same as ours," says Malcolm Heap, the club secretary. "Sheffield is a left-wing city and a left-wing council, but politics shouldn't be dragged into it. He's coming because he's a legend. The hills of



Sheffield gave his legs the strength to triumph.

With the future of Northern Ireland as gloomy as it has been for a long time, the Unionists are stepping up their cause in mainland Britain, with the formation of the Unionist Information Office. Its manager is Patricia Campbell, who, surprisingly, is a Roman Catholic. "The UIO is a broad church," explains its director, David Burnside.

Wheel life

LORD TEBBIT, famous for his "get on your bike" advice to those looking for work, has clearly decided that pedal power isn't so great after all. A cyclist had first-hand experience of this volte-face the other

day as he was riding out of the subway beneath Marble Arch towards Green Park. His mistake was to try to zip across a pedestrian area.

"This chap came towards me and barged me with his shoulder so that I toppled against a wall. He said: 'Good gracious! You nearly fell off your bicycle.' Then he walked off and I realised it was Tebbit," says the cyclist, now suitably contrite. "I was in the wrong. I was a few yards from the cycle path. But it was a bit of a surprise."

Toby, to be

NEWS to shatter female hearts across the country: Toby Stephens, the rugged young actor, son of Dame Maggie Smith and the late Sir Robert Stephens, is to marry. His bride, Alison Fogg, is a head-turning language graduate whose father, Nicholas, is a Shakespeare buff. Alison has developed a fair knowledge of the plays herself, as a result of courting one of the Royal Shakespeare Company's most promising talents. "I was always hanging around the Barbican, I saw his Coriolanus three times, as well as many others," she says.

No wedding date has been fixed, but the couple spent the weekend in Wiltshire at the Marlborough Fest-



Acting naturally: Alison Fogg and Toby Stephens

tival, the arts jamboree where they met exactly a year ago. Alison is well used to living with young men whose looks set female pulses racing: "Both my brothers are models you see."

Jackie Stewart's house between Geneva and Lausanne will not lie

empty despite his decision to return to England after 28 years as a tax exile. The middle-aged, middle-of-the-road pop singer Phil Collins is leaving it with his 23-year-old Swiss girlfriend, Orianne Cevey.

P.H.S

The leaked discussion paper is not "cranky" but proper, and reducing the State is possible

Why the Treasury kids are prescient

Our jolly Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, has yet again made a fool of himself over the admirable leaked Treasury memorandum. He dismissed it as the work of "kids in the office". All my lifetime, the Treasury has had an inverted pyramid of brains, with bright young people, who have some real understanding of economics, in relatively junior official ranks, and the shrewd old pols, who did not know where the decimal point should go, occupying the grand offices of state. The characteristic relationship occurred in the 1960s, when Peter Jay was a "kid in the office", and his father-in-law, Jim Callaghan, who always felt ashamed that he was not a Labour intellectual (as if that would have done him any good), was Chancellor of the Exchequer. Kenneth Clarke should not have forgotten the Treasury rule that it is "the kids in the office" who actually know what they are talking about. No doubt Helen Goodman, who led the memorandum team, is very bright; at 37 she is not so very young.

In truth, the leaked memorandum is reassuring, not because it will be right in all its policy predictions — how could it be? — but because it shows there are some people in the Treasury thinking about Britain's future. We know that the Chancellor is not. He never says anything which suggests that his process of cerebration was not shut down in 1986 like Chernobyl. David Heathcoat-Amory has been doing some thinking, and seems to have concluded that the single currency policy makes no sense. Now that he is going, it is good that there are Treasury officials, likely still to be there when Gordon Brown becomes Chancellor, who have seen how different the future is going to be and how soon it is going to arrive.

The current phase of the world's economic future started some years

ago: perhaps the best date for it is 1981. From that year onwards, two economic developments accelerated as mass movement. One was the growth of computing power, the other was the advance of the big Asian economies, particularly China. Neither of these phenomena was wholly new. The computer was already present in most offices, and Japan had already shown what the Asian economic revolution could do. But the old structures had changed very little. The United States, Europe, the Soviet Union; bureaucratic big businesses with many tiers of management; the European-style welfare state; Nato, the Warsaw Pact — these were the permanent institutions of the old world. In them laid power.

The Treasury memorandum looks forward to the world as it may be in the period from 2005 to 2015, only a few years hence. In 2015, the ranking of countries in their share of world output is expected to be China (1), the United States (2), Japan (3), India (4), Germany (5), Brazil (6), Indonesia (7), France (8), Thailand (9), United Kingdom (10), Mexico (11), South Korea (12), Italy (13), Russia (14). China's output will be as large as that of the United States and Japan put together. Germany will have less than 5 per cent of world output, and that will be falling.

There are two views about the best response to this rapid change. One view, which the European Union has so far accepted, is that big govern-

ment, in particular big European government, can protect the people of Europe from radical economic and technological changes. That is the majority view of the European political class. The Clinton Administration in Washington thinks in the same way. Not surprisingly, some politicians have not yet reached a clear judgment. In British politics, Chris Patten, the governor of Hong Kong, wants to endorse Hong Kong competitive values for Britain, while taking Britain to the "heart of

2015. If government expenditure is only contained so that it rises half as fast as national output, it will fall from the present level of about 42 per cent of GDP to 38 per cent in 2005 and to 34 per cent in 2015. That would prevent rising at all in real terms. It would fall to 35 per cent in 2005 and to 28 in 2015. That would reduce national costs and lead to an increase in savings and investment: the United Kingdom would become more competitive, and the growth rate itself would tend to rise.

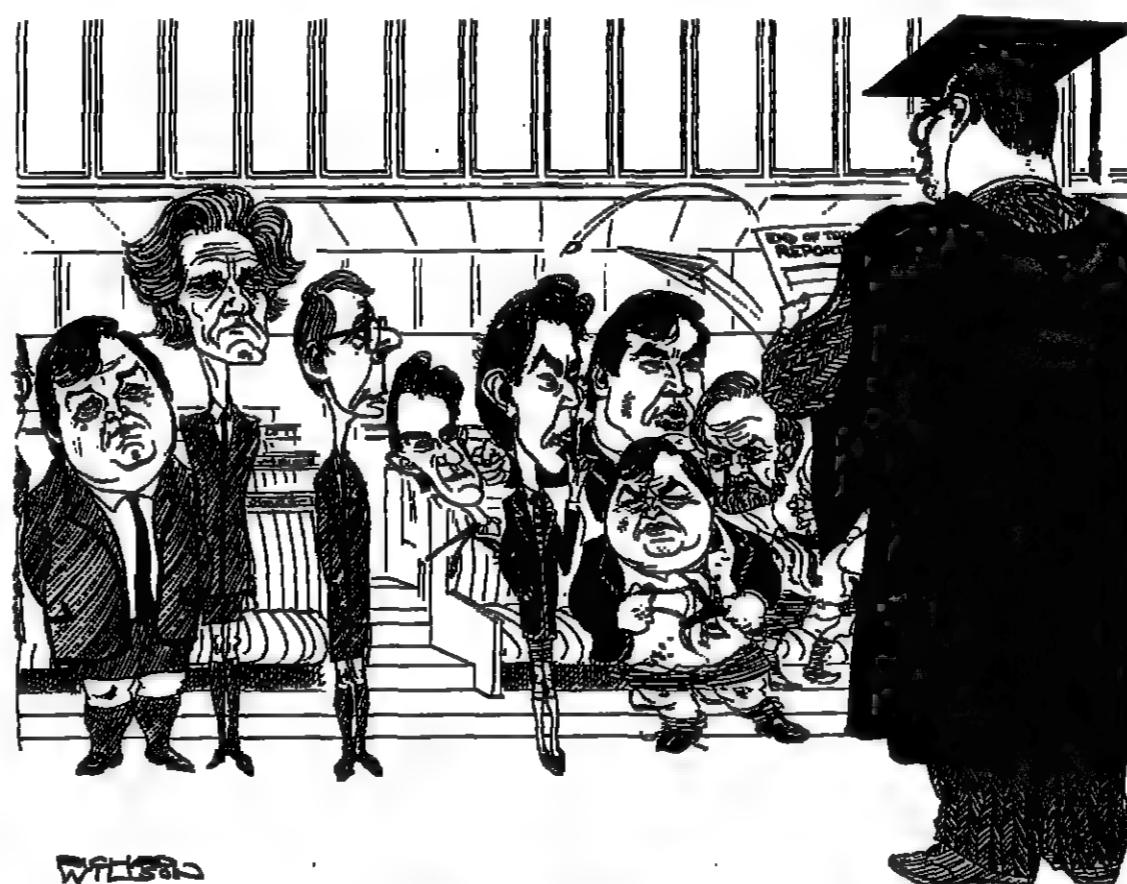
The Treasury team sees the privatisation of the welfare state, which now costs £90 billion a year, as a necessary condition of reducing the cost of the State. As economic growth makes people richer, they can provide better for their own future needs than the State can. When early industrial Britain was still poor, the poor law was the safety net: it was all that society could afford. As Britain became richer, we thought we could afford the welfare state but at a cost to our competitiveness.

As Britain in the future becomes richer still — and British output per head will be about 50 per cent higher in 2015 than it is now — the need for universal welfare provision will decline. People will prefer to save for their own future needs, as they already do in Singapore or Hong Kong. The safety net is all they will still want from the State.

Even at our present 2 per cent growth rate, Britain's output, on a 1995 base, will rise from £150 in 2015 to £225 in 2035, to £335 in 2055 and to £500 in 2075. That is the trend line. Our existing welfare philosophy reflects the social conditions of the 1930s and 1940s of the slump and the war. The Treasury has a duty to think about the smaller-State option for the future. When Kenneth Clarke says that is "cranky", he only shows that he is far too old-fashioned to be a modern Chancellor.

Discipline wins elections

Peter Riddell
says Labour has
to keep on
behaving like
a Government



up a compromise and focus on something else: economic recovery, the flaws in "new" Labour — whatever. That is what Mr Major has tried to do with his manoeuvring between the pro-Europeans and the sceptics, and his promise of a referendum on a single currency. But it is not enough. A sizeable minority of Tory MPs are preoccupied, even obsessed, with Europe — pressing the sceptic case regardless of the impact on party unity. No one disputes the sincerity of David Heathcoat-Amory's opposition to a European single currency, or his right to express his doubts from the backbenches. But to resign now will turn what should have been just a little-noticed shuffle of middle-ranking and junior ministers into several days of headlines about Tory splits. I do not believe that any likely Tory Government would enter a

single currency in the next Parliament, but to rule it out now risks a possibly fatal Cabinet split and the resignation of several ministers, including Kenneth Clarke. That is the mark of a party of opposition.

Many Tories have already written off the election and are preparing for later battles — although even the most anti-Major MPs are still fighting hard, not least for their own survival. John Redwood has been skilful at balancing loyal anti-Labourism and putting down post-election markers of the "if you only follow my advice you'll be all right" kind. This duality will be underlined at the party conference, where appeals from the platform for unity against the threat of new Labour will

be matched by a beauty contest on the fringe, where leadership contenders will parade their charms in a coded way under titles such as "Forward to the Millennium".

By contrast, Labour appears more disciplined. Mr Blair has concentrated on presenting Labour as a credible alternative government, avoiding any policy or statement which could compromise that goal. And all but a few mavericks and hard-left MPs are willing to keep quiet at present.

These pressures will reach their bizarre climax in the Shadow Cabinet elections on Wednesday. In a compromise with his critics, Mr Blair is seeking an endorsement of the current team, with Jack Cunningham in place of the retiring Joan Lestor. This has meant backing half a dozen members of the Shadow Cabinet who

are cool or hostile towards new Labour, and meanwhile a number of talented Blairites have been persuaded not to stand, in the cause of unity. So Mr Blair will be landed with a team he would not himself have chosen, and which is inferior in many ways to the Cabinet. This matters because an incoming Labour prime minister has to pick his first Cabinet from those previously elected to the Shadow Cabinet. Before the 1980s, only 12 members were elected, but now 19 are elected, removing any flexibility. If he wins, Mr Blair will probably bend the rules. But during the election Labour's case will not be presented by its best team, and this is a legacy of rule changes dictated by the pressures of opposition politics rather than government.

At present, Labour is more successful than the Tories at hiding divisions and appearing as a party of government. One of the most striking changes shown by MORI polls is that the public's image of Tory and Labour party unity and division have been reversed since 1992. The Tories may still want to win, but for the moment Labour has shown greater determination and self-discipline.



Suzanne Charlton says no more than 35 minutes of sun

Joe Dibbs 150



TERROR IN TARRAGONA

Eta is a repugnant aberration in modern, democratic Spain

The Basque terrorist group Eta has struck at British tourists and Spaniards in Tarragona, eastern Spain. This is not the first time it has targeted innocent people. It will not be the last. At the height of Spain's tourist season, Eta is out to create a psychosis of fear, frightening tourists away and damaging the Spanish economy. Many British holidaymakers, the mainstay of Spain's tourist industry, will be deterred by the rise in Eta attacks; but regular visitors to the country know that even when Eta bombs are taken into account, Spain remains a generally safe and hospitable holiday destination.

It will be safer still once the threat of Eta has been eliminated. Like all organisations which resort to terror, Eta claims that its cause justifies extremism. The truth is that Eta no longer has a cause and the Basques themselves know it. Eta is the Basque-language acronym for "Land and Freedom", the two goals for which this armed group originally launched its terrorist war against the Spanish State. Yet in modern, democratic Spain, its nationalist pretensions are as absurd as its methods are outrageous.

The Basque people already have their land. The Basque people are already free.

Spanish politics today may have its flaws, but political or ethnic repression are not among them. The Basques enjoy a greater degree of autonomy than most other "peoples" in Europe. They have their own parliament and premier and powers to raise and spend taxes unmatched anywhere else in Europe except in the German *Länder*. They even have their own police force, an understandable concession to a community brutally treated by the Guardia Civil in the time of General Franco. Their impenetrable language, Euskera, is imposed at great public expense throughout the regions

where Basques live, even though large sections of society learn it unwillingly. Julio Caro Baroja, the noted Basque anthropologist, once wrote that "to be a liberal in the Basque country is to be a lunatic; it is like talking to yourself in the street". He would not recognise the place today. For it is the growth of a liberal consciousness among the Basques that best illustrates the distance the region has travelled since General Franco died.

Violence, once endorsed by many Basques, is now rejected by virtually everyone. With the new moderation in the ruling Popular Party — whose traditional opposition to autonomy is, sensibly, a thing of the past — an alliance has been forged between the Christian Democrat Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) and José María Aznar, the conservative Prime Minister. Basque voters now exercise unprecedented political leverage in Madrid, which has empowered them in novel ways and, at the same time, drawn them firmly into the national mainstream.

Eta is completely isolated and has been so for nearly a decade. Each time it resorts to terrorism, it reinforces the repugnance with which it is viewed. Unless it renounces violence altogether, and unconditionally, the Spanish Government will continue to push relentlessly for its destruction. Spain's neighbours have a duty to help. All members of the European Union should waste no more time in putting into effect the treaty on extractions which was formulated at the recent summit in Florence. Let no Eta terrorist — or IRA member — qualify for sanctuary anywhere in Europe on the grounds that his crimes are "political". Eta has no basis. It stands not for land and freedom, but for tyranny and murder.

FIREFIGHTS AND FIREFLIES

Dissent in the party ranks hurts Major far more than Blair

An iron law dictates that every time the Prime Minister instructs his party to train all their guns on the Opposition, as he did last Friday, a shot rings out behind his back. It seems to work all the more infallibly when Mr Major is seconded by Sir Marcus Fox, the doughty chairman of the 1922 Committee who told MPs at the same meeting to take "a vow of silence" unless they had something to say that would help win the election.

This time, it was not a case of Mr Major being caught unawares; he knew when he spoke that David Heathcoat-Amory, the Paymaster-General, was contemplating resignation this week in order to oppose the Prime Minister's painfully constructed compromise on European monetary union. In itself, this would be no great disaster. Mr Heathcoat-Amory is an intelligent and principled man; his departure would be the first ministerial defection publicly linked to Tory divisions over Europe. But whether at the whips' office, as minister for Europe or at the Treasury, his career to date hardly marks him as a blazing Tory comet. On the Tory back benches, he could be expected to threaten nothing more disloyal than a well-argued Eurosceptic pamphlet or two.

The timing, however, guarantees that instead of being the boringly routine affair that Mr Major had hoped, this week's minor reshuffle will occupy headlines that the Tories would much rather see devoted to sparring between the pro and anti-Harman lobbies in Labour's Shadow Cabinet election. Even before the vacancy was confirmed, Mr Major was under pressure at the weekend to pick a successor from the Eurosceptic wing of the party. Even if Mr Heathcoat-Amory goes quietly, supporters of the Redwood-Howard wing of the party will provide a deafening fanfare of trumpets.

For Mr Major, all this is the more irritating because, within weeks of the Conservatives uttering their "new Labour, new danger" battlecry, thin cracks have at last

appeared in Tony Blair's disciplined ranks. His Shadow Cabinet has been audibly unenthusiastic about his efforts, mindful of the exasperation of Londoners over the Tube strikes and the importance of London's votes for Labour, to secure union assent to binding arbitration. There is wider unrest over welfare reform. Diane Abbott's happy admission yesterday that the entire party will be ecstatic the day after a Labour victory but that "after that, it gets a little bit more interesting" is tailor-made for pre-election Tory broadcasts. Finally, there is Tory fun to be had at Gordon Brown's expense, now that it turns out that the main author of the Treasury paper whose contents *The Times* disclosed last week, and which the Shadow Chancellor denounced as "stamped to the right", is Helen Goodman, who until she suddenly withdrew last Friday was hoping to be Labour's candidate for Barnsley.

The trouble, as Mr Major knows, is that Mr Blair will not only make light work of these July fireflies, but has shown that he can turn internal dissent to electoral advantage. Every quarrel reminds some people that "old Labour" still has deep roots; but to many more, it demonstrates how hard Mr Blair is driving the engine of reform.

Every fresh fracture in the Tory party, by contrast, helps Labour to present the Conservatives as so hopelessly split as to be incapable of governing. That tells particularly with the Tories' traditional middle-class supporters. With this crucial core of voters, it will not be enough for Mr Major to win the "don't let Labour ruin it" argument: they could still cost him the election by abstaining. This general election campaign has begun so early that all parties will have a tough time keeping their troops battle-ready. The party with the firmest profile will have the edge. On Europe, Mr Major is struggling to blur incompatible positions. It may seem to him the path of safety; but the path is booby-trapped every step of the way.

EVERYMAN'S FEAST

Britain takes its annual Promenade through the world of music

Where would classical music in Britain be without the Proms? The 102nd season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts opened last Friday at the Albert Hall with Haydn's *The Creation*. The sudden glory of God's handiwork, which this oratorio embodies to perfection, will be echoed throughout the series, with a special emphasis on Haydn, Stravinsky and Bruckner.

Creation and rebirth is the theme chosen by Nicholas Kenyon, who takes over from Sir John Drummond this year as Director of the Proms, to unite the 72 concerts which make up incomparably the greatest music festival on earth. Mr Kenyon has had his share of controversy as Controller of BBC Radio Three; but his selection of music and performers this year is as mainstream as it is original. The Proms must have room for the *avant garde* première as well as the warhorse; but Mr Kenyon is unlikely to provoke more conventional tastes as Sir John did by scheduling one of Harrison Birtwistle's less accessible pieces on the Last Night.

The Proms are nothing if not cosmopolitan. The Berlin Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony, the New York Philharmonic and the youthful Russian National Orchestra created recently for Mikhail Pletnev are among the visiting ensembles. The conductors include Sir Georg Solti, Bernard Haitink, Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Kurt Masur, Mstislav Rostropovich

and Sir Simon Rattle; among the soloists are Alfred Brendel and Anne-Sophie Mutter. There are two concerts for children and young people, concerts of Indian music and jazz, semi-staged operas (*Don Carlos* from Covent Garden, *Lulu* from Glyndebourne), musicals (Weill's rare *The Silver Lake*) and ballet (*The Soldier's Tale*). Lovers of early music (Kenyon) will be treated to an "authentic" performance of Beethoven's *Leontore*, while the premières include works by Tippett, Henze and Maxwell Davies.

The British, of course, take this for granted. The Albert Hall can accommodate more than half a million people each year for the Proms, every concert is broadcast live on Radio Three, many are televised and the Last Night will be relayed to nearby Hyde Park. Indeed, promenaders who are willing to queue and do without seats can attend the entire season for £130 in the arena or £80 in the gallery. Although the sense of occasion is such that the standard of performance is especially high, the ethos of the Proms is inclusive, democratic and popular.

The Proms are still associated by some with waving flags and bellowing *Rule Britannia*. Nothing wrong with that, but James Naughtie, who this year replaces Richard Baker as presenter of the Last Night, should take the opportunity of this post-prandial orgy to remind the ignorant of the great feast of music which precedes it.

'Fear and confusion' as Asylum Bill returns to Lords

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 0171-782 5000

From Rabbi Julia Neuberger

Sir, Lord Runcie and Lord Jakobovits are joining a group of peers tabling a new amendment to the Asylum and Immigration Bill on July 22, insisting that refugees be given a three-day period of grace to apply for asylum.

John McCarthy, the former Beirut hostage, has already written to peers describing his reaction, in the wake of his own experience, to the Bill and its implications: "It is incredible to me that a civilised, humane society can consider denying shelter and food at such a time to people who have already suffered greatly."

I served on the Gidwell panel in the spring, hearing asylum-seekers talking of leaving their countries in fear and confusion and arriving here, also in fear and confusion, and can only echo what McCarthy has said.

I am also the daughter of a refugee from Nazi Germany, who grew up with the fears of those who found asylum here still echoing around me, and their experiences have shaped my life to a significant extent.

Those of us who know — even at second hand — something of the mind of the refugee are praying that their lordships will be prepared to support this amendment, whatever their political persuasion.

If they do not, we run the danger, as a country, of causing needless suffering, destitution and death. If they do, we can hold up our heads proudly as a

humane society — and give genuine asylum-seekers a chance to receive support, recover from torture, and re-build shattered lives.

Yours sincerely,
JULIA NEUBERGER,
36 Orlando Road, SW4.
July 19.

From Professor Lord Russell, FBA

Sir, Since Tony Blair offered proposals for the reform of the House of Lords, the Conservative Party has loudly praised the House for its ability to check the executive. When the Asylum and Immigration Bill returns to the Lords on July 22, that is what we will be attempting to do.

There is little enough check on the British executive. The story of withdrawal of benefits from asylum-seekers illustrates the limits of the courts' power to check the executive. Patrilineage ensures that the Government majority in the House of Commons does little to check the executive.

The House of Lords is a weak check, but it is the only one we have. If the check does not operate occasionally the House serves no useful purpose.

When the two Houses disagree agreement must be sought before the Bill in question can become law. What takes place therefore is a negotiating process.

The amendment to the Commons

amendment to which the Lords will be asked to agree meets two of Peter Lil-

ley's objections to our original amendments. We await his response with interest.

Yours sincerely,
RUSSELL (Liberal Democrat
Social Security Spokesman).
House of Lords.
July 19.

From Mr John Tinney

Sir, The House of Lords is again to debate the amendment to the Asylum and Immigration Bill giving asylum-seekers three days' grace after their entry in which to make a claim.

All concerned appear to have overlooked the fact that since by definition the authorities cannot prove when an illegal entrant came into the country, anyone will be able to claim that they have entered within the last three days and so gain full benefits.

The lack of understanding of such rudimentary facts hinders the resolution of the problems besetting our chaotic asylum system. As those who know the truth are barred from speaking out, a short official inquiry, undertaken by a genuinely independent person, is needed to allow the debate to be conducted on a sound, factual basis.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN TINNEY
(Information and Research Director),
Immigration Service Union.
12 Church Street, Harwich, Essex.
July 19.

Gender and the language of God

From Canon Michael Perham

Sir, Your report today on the General Synod's debate on July 16 on the revision of Holy Communion Rites A and B gives an impression of a Church of England keener to go down the path of removing male pronouns about God than is the case.

In introducing the debate and the Liturgical Commission's report, I reminded the synod that for many years we have been committed to a policy of trying to remain in step with the international and ecumenical texts agreed with other English-speaking churches within and beyond our own country.

It is because those texts have been revised (in 1988), with some concern for gender-inclusive language, that we cannot avoid the issue. "Peace to God's People on Earth" instead of "his people", and "It is right to give our thanks and praise" instead of "give him thanks and praise", are both among these international texts.

Had we shared this enthusiasm for change, we would, for instance, have amended another text, one we do not share as a "common text" — that of the Blessing: "The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord".

The fact that we recommended no change at this point illustrates that the Commission's concern is not to change the language we use of God, but only to keep faith with our ecumenical partners.

We value our solidarity with Christians in other churches, but not at the expense of theological precision, as we see it; and the purpose of the synod debate was to test the mood before referring the proposals to a revision committee. There we shall discover whether the policy the Church of England has followed for some years can continue, or whether the inclusive language issue will force a change.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PERHAM,
27 The Close, Norwich, Norfolk.
July 17.

From Mr Roger Coombs

Sir, You report today that "the Church of England is to remove references to God as male in its prayer book". Including the petition to "Our Father"?

To deny God's universal fatherhood, and therefore maleness, is to reject the teaching of Jesus. Will the Church really go that far in its surrender to feminism?

Yours faithfully,
ROGER COOMBS,
Spindles, Goudhurst, Kent.
July 17.

Post Office charges

From Mr Paul Eisler

Sir, As a result of the postal strike no letter sent at first-class rate will arrive any faster than one sent at second-class rate, whilst one sent at second-class rate will presumably arrive slower still.

I suggest that the least the Post Office can do in compensation to its customers is to nominate a 24-hour period during which all letters will be charged at second-class rates and delivered as though they had been posted as first-class.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL EISLER,
6 Hogarth Hill, NW11.
July 18.

From Mr Raymond Durrant

Sir, As of today my local post office still has no leaflets setting out the recently increased postal charges.

The counter clerk was deeply apologetic and offered to give me the telephone number of the Royal Mail to see if I could hurry them up.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND DURRANT,
195 Marshalswick Lane,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.
July 19.

Pub names

From Mr Rodney Legg

Sir, Loss of historic inn names (letters, July 18, 20) is nothing new. Milborne Port, in south Somerset, currently offers the choice between the Queen's Head on one corner and the King's Head on another; but until 1817 or thereabouts the latter was known as "The Tippling Philosopher" — surely the best pub name in the land?

Yours sincerely,
RODNEY LEGG,
National School,
North Street, Wincanton, Somerset.
July 18.

Trade descriptions

From Flight Officer Mark Ashford

Sir, The assumption that the public expresses itself at "grass roots" level is well known. Today I learn ("The casualty criminals", Law, July 16) that certain beliefs are held by "coal face" junior doctors.

As an aviator I suppose my views would be somewhere near the "leading edge", or perhaps even "at the sharp end". I wonder how one might describe those of other professions?

Yours faithfully,
MARK ASHFORD,
79 Oliver Street,
Amphill, Bedfordshire.
July 16.

Trips to the Bar

From Mrs Su Stone

Sir, The figures which you quote (report, July 16, earlier editions) on the cost to trainees barristers of travelling to London from regional universities, in order to eat their 13 qualifying dinners, are surely exaggerated.

You cite £198 as the price of a rail return from Newcastle to London plus an overnight stay. An Apex return from Newcastle booked two weeks in advance costs £28, booked one week in advance costs £40, and a full fare booked on the day of travel is £59, with a student entitled to a deduction which costs £13 for the year.

Bed and breakfast in a respectable hotel in central London can be booked for less than £40 per night.

Yours truly,
SU STONE,
5 Raymond Buildings,
Gray's Inn, WC1.
July 17.

From Mr Clive Bone

Sir, It would surely be better to employ the undoubted talent of HM Treasury officials to explore and resolve how to reverse Britain's relative economic and industrial decline rather than to accommodate it.

Yours sincerely,
CLIVE BONE,
4 Onslow Gardens,
Muswell Hill, N10.
July 17.

From Mr Robert Ashby

Sir, Does the choice of a medieval chart of the heavens as the cover design of the Treasury report on strategy for the start of the next century indicate that its forecasts too, are based on superstition and errors equivalent to believing the Earth to be the centre of the solar system?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT ASHYBY
(Executive Director),
British Humanist Association,
47 Theobald's Road, WC1.
July 17.

One of the lads?

From The Reverend John Ticehurst



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 20: The Duke of York today attended the Open Golf Championship at the Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire (Sir Simon Towneley).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 20: The Prince Edward, Chairman of the International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, was received this morning by The President of Malta at Verdala Palace before attending the Award's First European Mediterranean Regional Conference at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, which was officially opened by The President.

His Royal Highness and The President of Malta later attended a Luncheon given by the British High Commissioner (His Excellency Mr Graham Archer) at his Residence.

This afternoon The Prince Edward visited the Park of Friendship, Marsascala, and met Gold Award Residential Project and President's Award participants.

His Royal Highness later returned for the closing session of the Regional Conference.

The Prince Edward this evening attended The President Award's

Gala Dinner at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza.

CLARENCE HOUSE

July 20: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, gave a Reception for the Confederation of the Cinque Ports at Walmer Castle this evening.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 21: The Duke of York this afternoon opened the World Wheelchair Games at the Guttmann Sports Centre, Stoke Mandeville, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire (Commander the Lord Colchester, RN).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 21: The Prince Edward this afternoon arrived at Royal Air Force Northolt from Malta.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE

July 21: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, this morning attended Matins at St Mary-in-the-Castle, Dover.

Her Majesty subsequently visited Dover Castle and was received by Brigadier David Godsal (Deputy Constable).

The Hon Mrs Rhodes, Sir Alastair Aird and Major Charles MacEwan were in attendance.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Anthony Ashley Cooper, 1st Earl of Shaftesbury, statesman, Wimborne St Giles, Dorset, 1621; Friedrich Bessel, astronomer, Minden, Germany, 1784; Gregor Mendel, pioneer of the study of heredity, Heizenberg, Austria, 1822; Rev William Spooner, scholar and begetter of "spoonerisms", London, 1844; Frederick William Rolfe (Baron Corvo), writer, London, 1860; Selman Waksman, discoverer of streptomycin, Nobel laureate 1952; Priyku, Ukraine, 1888; Alexander Calder, sculptor, Philadelphia, 1898; Stephen Vincent Benet, poet, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 1898; Sobhita II, King of Swaziland 1899-1982; Zombodia, 1899.

DEATHS: Catherine Phillips, poet, London, 1664; John Dalton, poet, Worcester, 1763; Marie Francois Bichat, physiologist, Paris, 1802; George Shaw, naturalist, London, 1813; Giuseppe Piazzi, astronomer, Palermo, 1852; Wilson Barrett, actor-manager, London, 1904; Floren Ziegfeld, theatrical pro-

ducer, Hollywood, 1932; Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada 1921-26, 1926-30 and 1935-48; Kingsmere, Quebec, 1952; Carl Sandburg, poet and biographer, Flat Rock, North Carolina, 1967. The Mormons reached the site of Salt Lake City, 1847.

The first round-the-world solo flight was completed by Wiley Post in 7 days 18hr 49min, 1933.

New Recorders

Northern Circuit: P.D. Cattan, A.J. Gilbert, QC, I.M. Hamilton, A.S. Webster, QC, Miss P.H. Badley, A.F. S. Donovan, J.E. Finstein, N.J. Gilchrist, D.M. Kerr, A.E.R. Noble, N.J. Warren.

Midland and Oxford Circuit: P.E. Bleasdale, D.R. Bright, I. Collis, C.N. Edelman, QC, J.G. Harvey, M.I. Khan, A.G. Mains, I.A.B. McLaren, QC, A.P. Mitchell, D. Price, J.C. Price, A.C. Tickle, R.P. Whitehurst.

South Eastern Circuit: K.J. Farrow.

Nature notes

STOCK doves are still making their strange call deep in the foliage it sounds like a man grunting rhythmically as he heaves at some heavy piece of furniture. Stock doves are like slightly smaller woodpigeons without the white wing bars or the white mark on the neck, and they

are often overlooked in the woods. Buzzards are beginning to drift away from the moors, and are sometimes seen circling high over towns. More little egrets and spoonbills have been reported in marshy places: with their snowy white plumage they can both be spotted from far away.

Pink and white flowers are opening on the tall plants of great hairy willow-herb. The small pink flowers of centaury grow closer to the ground. In some waste places, opium poppies have naturalised themselves: they have silvery lilac petals with four dark spots at the bottom of the cup. Green berries are forming on the hawthorn hedges, and small blue ones on the blackthorn. In the ditches, there are glossy green clusters of berries at the top of the cuckoo-pint stalks. Gatekeeper and comma butterflies are feeding on the bramble blossom. Many ponds are covered with the white flowers of water crowfoot, with blue damselflies glittering above them. DJM

The buzzard

In memory of all who have been killed fifty years ago in the Second World War.

The Olympic way leading to the stadium was lined with Zanes, bronze statues of Zeus paid for by fines for lying, bribery and cheating. The traveller Pausanias in the 1st century noted that the first six statues had been set up in the 96th Olympiad in 388 BC, when the boxer Eupolos bribed his opponents to let him win.

By the 4th century AD the statues reached all along the path, including one of AD 93

Buyer sought for 'London's prettiest house'

Home of A.A. Milne put on sale for £1m

BY RACHEL KELLY

THE Chelsea house that was home to A.A. Milne for more than 20 years is up for sale for offers over £1 million.

The creator of Winnie-the-Pooh, Tiggy, Piglet, and Kangaroo lived at No 13 Mallord Street between 1919 and 1942 with his wife Daphne and son Christopher Robin, who was born in 1920.

When the Milnes moved in, the author described their three-storey terraced home as the "prettiest little house in London". In an article in August 1919, Milne wrote of his pride in having a "staircase of my own".

Christopher Robin's nurse, Olive Rand — remembered in verse as Alice — lived on the top floor with Christopher. Writing about his life, Christopher Milne described the view from the nursery window thus: "If I stood on the Ottoman where I kept my toys I could look through the bars of the window and see the whole length of Mallord Street below me. It was a quiet, almost deserted street, no cars, no people, no noise, nothing to look at."

Christopher Robin later remembered the smell of geraniums and fuchsias in the small front garden. With "Alice" the boy would have walked from the house to Buckingham Palace to see the Changing of the Guard, an experience immortalised in verse.

A journalist who visited the home described it as a "rhapsody of azure and primrose, with carpets of heavenly blue, walls of yellow". The writer's



The home of A.A. Milne and Christopher, below

book-lined study was a neat and cosy room, he said. The drawing room is little changed and has the panels, fireplace and cornices of the Milnes' day.

The house has four bedrooms, two bathrooms, a drawing room, dining room, study, large kitchen, and south-facing garden. It has had two owners since the Milnes left and the current owner is selling through the agents to move to a smaller house. Alan Alexander Milne died in 1956.

Lead tablets bearing curses, similar to those found some years ago at the Roman temple in Uley, Gloucestershire, show that some athletes tried



Alan Alexander Milne

paid for by an Alexandrian athlete who arrived late blaming bad weather: he had in fact been competing for prizes at a rival games meeting in Ionia. A fellow competitor who exposed him was declared the simple victor's wreath: Solon of Athens brought in bonuses of 500 drachmas (worth about £200,000 today) over 2,500 years ago.

Transfers and free agents were also known: Astylos of Kroton won at Olympia for his home state in 488 and 484 BC, but won for Syracuse in 480. Young men were pursued not only by rival cities, but by prospective male lovers: vase paintings show mature men spotting gifts of game.

The athlete's equipment consisted only of a jar of oil and a strigil for anointing and scraping himself clean, together with a discus or javelin, jumping weights and a strigil. Painted drinking cups, presumably from the interim date, the offering to between 550 and 525 BC.

Transfers and free agents were also known: Astylos of Kroton won at Olympia for his home state in 488 and 484 BC, but won for Syracuse in 480. Young men were pursued not only by rival cities, but by prospective male lovers: vase paintings show mature men spotting gifts of game.

In AD 67 Nero made a transfer of the Olympiad by competing personally in a chariot race. He fell from his chariot and did not finish, but was nevertheless declared the winner. Whatever else happens in Atlanta, President Clinton will not have that to worry about.

Birthdays today

Mr Marcus Agius, banker, 50; Mr Peter Allen, former senior partner, Coopers & Lybrand, 58; Mr Harry Barnes, MP, 60; Dr Sir Reginald Bennett, former MP, 85; Mr Willem Dafoe, actor, 41; Mr Jeanmarie Engeset, Surgeon to the Queen in Scotland, 58; Miss Julia Farson, a former director, Royal Academy of Dancing, 74; Mr Bryan Forbes, film director and producer, 70; Mr Justice Gerald Gurney, 67; Mr Danny Glover, actor, 49; Lady Grinthrop, Lady of the Bedchamber to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 71; Mr Ernest Hill, sports commentator, 68; General Charles Huxtable, 65; Mrs L.A.C. Kennedy, civil engineer, 46; Miss Bonnie Langford, actress, 32; Professor Sir Ronald Mason, 66; Mr Terence Stamp, actor and director, 58; Mr Anthony Steer, 57; Mrs Alison Willcock, Head, Bedales School, 44; Mrs Diane Yeo, a former charity commissioner, 51.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron, will give a reception for the London Federation of Clubs for Young People at Buckingham Palace at 6.00, and will attend a dinner at Lancaster House at 7.40. Princess Alexandra will attend the St Dunstan's reception at Winfield House, Regent's Park at 6.15.

A reception was held at Claridge's and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr D.R.P. Little

and Miss M.J. Kiteon

The marriage took place on Saturday, July 20, at St George's, Hanover Square, London, WI, of Mr Rupert Asquith, son of the late Hon Paul Asquith and of the Hon Mrs Asquith, to Miss Alexandra Neal, daughter of Mr and Mrs Morton Neal. The Rev William Hills officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Harriet Asquith, Louisa and Alexander Asquith, Kate and Freddie Macnamara, Harry and Joanne Neal, Eve and William Kyle-Hodges, and Vanessa Troop, Head, Bedales School, 44; Mr Jonathan Asquith was best man.

A reception was held at Claridge's and the honeymoon will be spent in the Far East.

Mr A.J. March

and Miss J.S. Breerton

The marriage took place on Saturday, July 20, 1990, at St Andrews Church, Northborough, between Mr Alan John March, son of Mrs Freda Wootten and Mr John Anthony March, and Miss Janine Sandra Breerton, daughter of Mr and Mrs Antony Johnson.

A reception was held at The Swallow Hotel, Peterborough.

Mr A.S.J. Moorhouse

and Miss A.L. Suckling

The marriage took place on Saturday, at St Paul's, Wolverhampton, Devon, of Mr Rupert Little, son of Mr and Mrs David Little, to Miss Chiggy Kington, daughter of Sir Frank and Lady Kington. The Rev Richard Tebbs officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Harry Denniston and William Combes. Mr David Bronger was best man.

The honeymoon will be spent in India.

Dr A.T. Abhorh

and Dr S.J. Hanger

The marriage took place between Dr Susan Hanger and Dr Tareq Abuabhar on Saturday, July 20, in Stocks Farm, Abberley, Herefordshire.

Mr D.R. Cope

and Ms C.J. Swinburne

The marriage has taken place in London of David Cope and Caroline, elder daughter of Professor Richard and Mrs Monica Swinburne. A service of blessing was held on Friday, July 19, at Holy Trinity Church, Kensington, at which Father Pierre Dell, Dean of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Lusaka, Zambia, officiated.

The Rev Frank Blanchard, formerly rector, Stockton-on-the-Forest, and now retired: to be Assistant Priest (NSM), Bridekirk (Carlisle).

Mr H.J. Cobbe

and Miss O.V.G. Longfield

The marriage took place on Saturday, July 20, at Persie.

Marriages

urday at St Lawrence Church, Westerton, Hampshire, of Mr Hugo Cubitt, son of the late Mr Robin Cubitt, and of Mrs John Wauchope, to Miss Onnale Longfield, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Longfield. The Rev John Jenkins officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Flora Huddart, Olivia Sanders, Joshua Flower, Alexander Kelly and Emilian Hoel. Mr David Cubitt was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in the Far East.

Mr A.J. March

and Miss J.S. Breerton

The marriage took place on Saturday, July 20, 1990, at St Andrews Church, Northborough, between Mr Alan John March, son of Mrs Freda Wootten and Mr John Anthony March, and Miss Janine Sandra Breerton, daughter of Mr and Mrs Antony Johnson.

A reception was held at The Swallow Hotel, Peterborough.

Mr A.S.J. Moorhouse

and Miss A.L. Suckling

The marriage took place on Saturday, at Chelsea Old Church, of Mr Adam Moorhouse, son of Mr and Mrs Timothy Moorhouse, of Leigh, Surrey, to Miss Amanda Suckling, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Suckling, of Chelsea.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs Simon Levy and Charlotte Suckling. Mr Andrew West was best man.

A reception was held at Seaford House, Belgrave Square, and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr H.D.G. Oakes

and Miss C.M. Miller Smith

The marriage took place on Saturday, July 20, at Persie Castle, Alford, Aberdeenshire, by the Rev Richard Fraser, of Mr Harry Coulton, son of Sir Derek Coulton, QC, and the late Lady Coulton, to Miss Caroline Miller Smith, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Miller Smith.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Fiona Miller Smith and by Anastasia and Michael Fawcett. Mr Jason Bell was best man, assisted by Maxwell Hoffmann.

The reception was held at Seaford House, Belgrave Square, and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr B.G.T. Ward

and Miss A.J. Rowe

The engagement is announced between Toby, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Ward, of Billing, Kent, and Alison, elder daughter of Captain and Mrs Richard Channon, of Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk.

The reception was held at Whitsable, Kent.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.S.M. Beckwith-Smith

and Miss C.A. Alers-Hanley

The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Beckwith-Smith, of Maybush, Rudgwick, and Katie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Alers-Hanley, of Bedford Park, London.

OBITUARIES

GOTTFRIED VON EINEM

Gottfried von Einem, Austrian composer, died on July 12 aged 78. He was born on January 24, 1918.

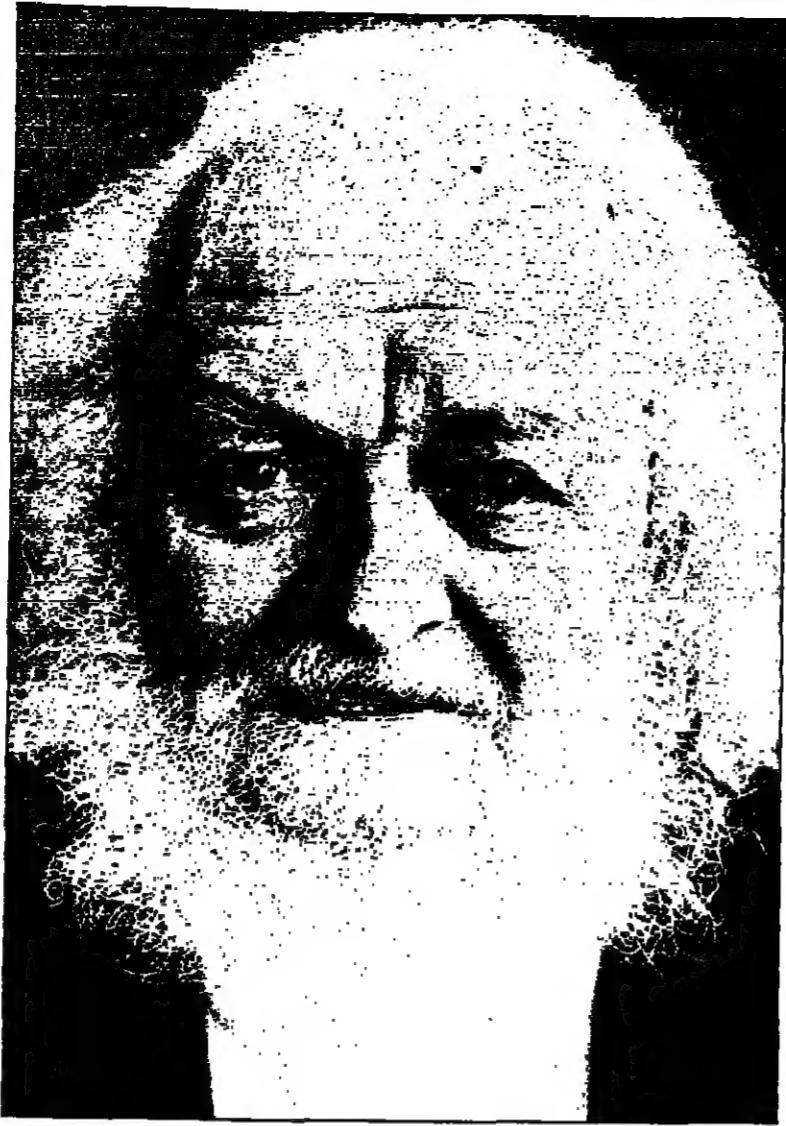
THE music of Gottfried von Einem spanned not only the better part of a century but also the better part of the century's European musical trends. He varied his compositional style according to the brief he set himself. His open-mindedness, his willingness to take as much from the rhythmic excitement of jazz and Stravinsky as from the Romantic current of Rachmaninov and Mahler — evident in the 1992 Vienna Philharmonic piece *Fratres* — were the trademarks of his work.

With its clear tonal centres and general approachability, his music risked the accusation of being conservative, reactionary and even anti-intellectual. But his work was marked by a sharp imagination, a desire to communicate, and a craftsmanship that kept it far above the humdrum. And with hindsight, future critics may well believe that his communicability and plurality, principles which Einem passed on to pupils, including H. K. Gruber, were the real marks of his greatness.

Born in Berlin, where his father was Austrian military attaché at the embassy, his schooling took place at an institution in Pöhl that had a reputation for its lively interest in contemporary music and, in particular, for its association with Paul Hindemith.

When he was a young man Einem paid visits to both Salzburg and Bayreuth. For a time in the late 1930s he studied languages in England. In 1938 he was appointed to the coaching staff of the Berlin State Opera, a significant attachment that marked the beginnings of a theatrical involvement he was never to lose. As yet, serious composition had not taken its hold, but that changed when he met Rainer Blacher, one of many fine composers proscribed by the Nazis.

Einem went on to study with Blacher in Berlin, where he also established musical friendships with the broad church of composers that included Carl Orff and Werner Egk. Blacher's friendship later led to his writing many libretti for his former pupil. Both men had shown remarkable courage in the face of the Nazis. Einem personally helped many people to escape from Germany; his account of his treatment at the hands of the Gestapo's interrogators made harrowing reading.



The war years saw the premiere of his first significant work, the ballet *Princess Turandot*, performed in 1944 in Dresden, which led to his engagement as resident composer and music adviser for Dresden Staatsoper. Several more ballet scores followed, but it was in the operatic field, particularly with his two earliest operas, that he made his most telling marks.

Dantons Tod, written to a libretto by Blacher after Büchner's play, was the first staged at the 1947 Salzburg Festival. It earned him an immediate international reputation and, within a year, a place on the board of the Salzburg Festival (this was the first of

many influential administrative posts that later included the directorship of the Vienna Festival). *Dantons Tod*, a large, chorus-oriented work, was the right opera at the right time, based on a historical subject, but one which had obvious resonances with post-Nazi Germany.

Einem's second opera, *Der Prozess*, set to another Blacher libretto and this time based on Kafka's *The Trial*, followed in 1953, and was also staged at Salzburg. Though equally pertinent, it was a very different work to *Dantons Tod*, conceived on a claustrophobically intimate scale. And arguably, with its expressionistic, neo-Bergian stance, it

is the work most obviously at variance with Einem's instrumental music pieces like the *Philadelphia* and *Vienna Symphonies* (1960 and 1975), the Concerto for Orchestra (1943), and the Piano Concerto (1955), which all inhabit a fluent, neo-classical, post-Hindemithian sphere.

In the same year as the premiere of *Der Prozess*, Einem moved to Vienna, and subsequently his operas took a less severe turn. The third opera, *Der Zerrissene*, is another libretto by Blacher after Johann von Nestroy's farce — whose music was originally provided by Loritzing — is a brilliant, light-handed, fast moving score first produced in Hamburg in 1964. Seven years later, in 1971, Einem composed what is generally recognised to be his greatest operatic success, a version of Dürrenmatt's play *Der Besuch der alten Dame*, to Dürrenmatt's own libretto.

The work rapidly caught on, and in 1973 an English version was staged at Glyndebourne. The reviews were, on the whole, enthusiastic, although The Times' William Mann remained relatively unimpressed. He disparagingly likened the music to the film scores of the 1940s. Even so *Der Besuch der alten Dame* has remained in the repertoire and New York City Opera has a new production of it scheduled for 1997.

Subsequently Einem's operas gained less enthusiastic responses. *Kabale und Liebe*, again written to a text by Blacher but this time co-authored with Lotte Ingrisch, Einem's second wife, skillfully contracted the 42 scenes of Schiller's original play to just nine. Yet the cost of this was that critical views in the end were that Einem had failed to capture the essential tension of its plot, a love affair destroyed by a conflict of class.

Jesu Hochzeit, performed in 1980, was the first opera for which Ingrisch provided the entire libretto. But it seemed deliberately gauged to court controversy. It featured a pop-singing Mary Magdalene posing the audience religious riddles and a particularly scandalous scene involving an erotic encounter between Jesus, as Life and Love, and the figure of Death. Einem's final two operas, *Prinz Chocolat* (1983) and *Tulfusant* (1990), were also to texts by Ingrisch, many of whose poems Einem set as songs.

As well as his second wife, Einem leaves a son by his first marriage. This son is Austria's Minister for Internal Affairs.

PROFESSOR NORMAN ALDRIDGE

Professor Norman Aldridge, OBE, biochemical toxicologist, died in Winchester, on June 30 aged 76. He was born in Nunton on November 22, 1919.

NORMAN ALDRIDGE was fascinated by the interaction of chemicals with living organisms. He rose from employment as junior laboratory technician in a dye works at the age of 17 to become one of the world's most widely regarded toxicologists. His book *Mechanisms and Concepts in Toxicology*, published this year, is far removed from the descriptive compendium beloved by forensic and regulatory authorities. He believed that understanding how and why measured doses of chemicals exert their toxic effect was fundamental to safety planning as well as to an evaluation of the risks and benefits of using chemicals in industry, food preservation, agriculture or medicine.

Wilfred Norman Aldridge was drafted for wartime service to Porton Down, where many of the finest medical researchers were applying themselves to practical problems of protection against chemical warfare agents. He proved himself a careful laboratory investigator studying out-of-hours to obtain a London University external degree in chemistry and physiology in 1946.

In that same year he was the first non-medical scientist recruited by Dr John Barnes, the director of the new Toxicology Unit of the Medical Research Council. The remit was to "do something" to help face health problems which might occur as the chemical industry burgeoned.



Aldridge gained a PhD in biochemistry in 1952 and continued with the unit at Carshalton, Surrey, until his retirement in 1975. By this time he had been head of the biochemical mechanisms section for 20 years and deputy director for ten. His abilities attracted several eminent scientists and research trainees to the laboratory, both from Britain and abroad. He gave his time generously in one-to-one discussions of experimental work, inspiring careful investigation and rigorous thought among his students. The interplay between practical problems and funda-

ment for boils. From that event research developed leading, over many years, to wider understanding of the processes of oxidative phosphorylation which generate and conserve body energy.

Aldridge believed that toxic chemicals were the dissecting tools of the physiologist. During his career he contributed to the understanding of processes vital to the health of liver, lung, kidney and nervous system. His advice was sought increasingly by authorities worldwide. His input into immediate and long term responses to chemical accidents was calm, thoughtful and incisive.

Problems from contaminated cooking oils in Morocco (1959-60) and seed grain in Iraq (1973), the toxic oil epidemic in Spain (1981), the pesticide factory explosion in Bhopal, India (1986), and the inquiries into possible effects of Agent Orange in Vietnam all received close attention.

In 1975 Aldridge became director of a World Health Organisation collaborating laboratory. He was associated with the Toxicology Unit. Very soon a problem arose threatening attempts to foster alternative insecticides to DDT which were effective against malaria mosquitoes yet safe enough to be sprayed inside village huts.

Malathion had been a useful pest-control agent throughout the life of the original patent. However, by 1976, alternative formulations had been marketed. Some of these, when stored in hot, humid conditions in Pakistan, deteriorated and became so toxic that 2,700 spray-workers became ill and five died.

Aldridge showed that one decomposition product was

responsible for inhibiting human enzymes which would normally detoxify malathion if it penetrated the skin. It was then possible to monitor revised formulations which would restore malathion to a useful place in pest control.

Aldridge was founder chairman of the British Toxicology Society (1979-80) and secretary-general of the International Union of Toxicology (1983-86). He was appointed OBE in 1977 and honoured with several academic and professional awards in Europe, Asia and America.

His ability lead to visiting staff appointments in several universities, not only in Britain but also in America and Europe. He contributed greatly to the establishment of post-graduate teaching courses at the University of Surrey and at Trondheim University in Norway.

In his retirement, he was Professor of Biochemical Toxicology at Surrey and contributed editorial work for international research journals. Aldridge persisted in lab-work throughout his career and revelled in data which did not quite fit a current view.

"Anomalous data leads to advances in understanding" was his favourite tenet. He enlivened group discussions by his friendly manner coupled with probing questions and suggestions as to how to disprove and discard facile explanations which obscured truer ones. The one word "why?" from him was known to half many high-flow presentations.

Aldridge and his wife of nearly 50 years, Kathleen, shared an enjoyment of gardening and travel. He is survived by her and their son and two daughters.

ABBOT LEO AVERY

Leo Avery, Abbot of Quarr, 1992-96, died of a brain tumour on July 4 aged 58. He was born on January 5, 1938.



ABBOT LEO AVERY combined a warmth and gentleness of character with a down-to-earth practicality and a contemplative and scholarly nature. As a member of the community at Quarr Abbey, in the Isle of Wight, he followed the Rule of St Benedict which brings together the purity of idealism and a practical wisdom. Through his knowledge of ancient Hebrew and Greek he acquired a deep understanding of the Old and New Testaments and his spiritual counsel was greatly respected both by members of his community and by those who came to the abbey for private retreat.

On the other hand, having come to the monastic life from a background in aeronautical engineering, he had a sound practical ability which he put to valuable use, not least when structural problems were found in the abbey church.

Quarr Abbey — whose name originates from the word "quarry" — was founded in 1132. The ruins of the original buildings now form part of the monastery's estate, but the abbey as it stands today was built in the early 20th century as a temporary home for the exiled French community of Solesmes. When they returned France in 1922, a group of monks was left as a nucleus for what has now grown into a mainly English community. Today it comprises 20 monks, although, as in most religious orders, numbers are slowly dwindling.

It was the third Abbot of this community since 1937 when Quarr was raised to the status of an abbey. But his abbacy was lamentably short. His two predecessors served for 28 years apiece, while Abbot Leo Avery served for only four years before contracting the malignant tumour of the brain which killed him.

Leo Avery was born in 1938 in Wakefield, the second of five children of a Roman Catholic family, but when he was still very young his family moved to Maidstone where his father worked in local government. He was educated at Maidstone Grammar School.

He loved flying and hoped to join the RAF but, not meeting the exacting physical standards required for a pilot,

he decided instead to study aeronautical engineering at the University of Southampton. His study was part of a Vickers-Armstrong apprenticeship and while there he worked on the design of the VC10.

It was during his time as a student that he first went on retreat to Quarr Abbey. He was strongly attracted to its contemplative atmosphere and after his graduation he decided to join the community as a postulant. He took his temporary vows after two years, and then three years later, in 1965, his final vows. In 1969 he was ordained as a priest.

In that same year he left to live in Rome where he studied at the Benedictine College of Sant'Anselmo. He also attended courses at the Pontifical Biblical Institute from which he graduated as a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture.

On his return to Quarr in 1973 one of his important tasks was the teaching of scripture to the young monks. He lived the daily life of a Benedictine monk, built around the framework of the Divine Office, prayer recited in the ancient Gregorian chant six times a day, beginning with Vigils at 5.30am and ending with Compline at 8.30pm. But he also proved himself of particular

TIMOTHY JONES

Timothy Jones, stockbroker, died of cancer on July 6 aged 64. He was born on July 15, 1931.



TIMOTHY JONES enjoyed a distinguished and successful city career. He joined the leading firm of stockbrokers Akroyd & Smithers in 1957 and, with typical loyalty, remained with them for almost thirty years. Most of his career was spent on the trading floor of the Stock Exchange where he specialised in Government Securities. In 1981 he was made joint chairman of his firm and five years later was one of the leading figures in successfully concluding a merger with S.G. Warburg, Rowe & Pitman and Mullens & Co. This was considered one of the most successful "big bang" mergers from which the S.G. Warburg Group was later formed.

Having done his national service in the Rifle Brigade, Timothy Fraser Jones graduated from St John's College, Cambridge, and joined the stockbrokers Buckmaster and Moore in 1954. Three years later he joined Akroyd & Smithers and in 1963 was made a partner. A skilled reader of markets he was a committed bear during the dramatic stockmarket setbacks of the 1970s. Akroyd &

things in life, he had a passion for wine. It was reputed that during his time as a stockbroker he would balance his book by taking on a stock of first growth clarets. Guests to his home would be treated to comparative tastings of the finest vintages and it is said that once, when a technical fault developed on a plane and he was forced to exit down the escape chute, he slid to safety with a bottle of vintage port still cradled in the horizontal position so that it would not spoil.

It was also Jones who, having met the wine producer Hubert Trimbach from Alsace, introduced him to a London distributor. Trimbach is now one of the most widely known Alsace wines.

In his spare time Jones was an enthusiastic gardener. When his first garden was destroyed by the 1987 hurricane which landed a neighbouring church spire in the middle of his beds, he and his wife, together with Rosemary Verrey with whom they had formed a firm friendship, worked to recreate another fine garden.

To relax Jones and his wife would visit Rome, a city for which they had a great love.

Timothy Jones is survived by his wife Mary, whom he married in 1955, and by two daughters and a son.

An appreciator of the finer

ON THIS DAY

July 22, 1815

Rochefort, July 15, ten o'clock at night. To execute the orders of your Excellency, I embarked in my boat, accompanied by Baron Richard, Prefect of Charente-Inférieure. The report from the Roads, of the 14th, had not yet reached me. I was informed by Captain Philibert, commander of the *Amphyrite* frigate, that Bonaparte had embarked on board the brig *Eperier*, armed as a flag of truce, determined to surrender himself to the English cruisers.

In fact, at break of day we saw him manoeuvre to approach the English ship *Bellerophon*, commanded by Captain Mainland, who seeing that Bonaparte was coming towards him, mounted a white flag at the mizzenmast. Bonaparte was received on board the English vessel, as also the persons in his suite: the officer whom I left in observation had informed me of this important news,

the 8th, went on board the *Soleil*, one of the two frigates which were to convey him to North America. Next day he sent General Bertrand in a boat on board the English Admiral's ship, for the purpose of asking from the Commander a free passage for his two frigates; but the latter replied, that he would immediately attack these two vessels as soon as they should endeavour to get out. He added, however, that if Napoleon chose to come on board him, he would receive him with every attention, would answer for his person; would convey him to England; and did not doubt that the British Government would then cause him to be conveyed wherever he (Napoleon) should wish to go.

Though this answer did not appear to square with the plans of the Ex-emperor, he immediately declared that he should prefer before everything else throwing himself on the honour of the English; that besides, he did not wish to risk the lives of the crew of the two frigates. Shortly after, with a few officers, he went off in a flag of truce, and went on board the Admiral's ship. Since then he has not been seen to return. We know only that the vessel was to set sail on the 12th; and accordingly it was no longer visible at daybreak this morning. Joseph Bonaparte had not left Rochefort on the morning of the 12th.

The Academy's Officers for 1996-97 are Sir Keith Thomas, President; Professor P. Hagger, Vice-President; Professor M.M. McGowan, Vice-President; Professor J.S. Flannigan, Treasurer; Professor B.E. Supple, Foreign Secretary; Professor D.E. Luscombe, Publications Secretary. The following were elected Fellows of the British Academy at the annual meeting on July 4:

Professor J.D. Ades (Essex University), history of art; Dr J. Bergin (Manchester University), history; Dr J.N. Butterfield (Cambridge University), philosophy; Professor J. Carey (Oxford University), literature; Professor N.L.D. Cartwright (LSE), philosophy; Dr A.D. Cliff (Cambridge University), geography; Professor J.F. Dunn (Institute of Psychiatry, University of London), developmental social psychology.

Professor R.H. Finnegan (Open University), social anthropology; Dr R. Foot (Oxford University), international relations and contemporary history; Professor H. Goldstein (Institute of Education, London University), educational statistics; Dr M.D. Goodman (Ox-

The British Academy

ford University), Jewish studies; Dr I.R. Hodder (Cambridge University), archaeology; Professor C.C. Hood (LSE), political studies; Professor A.G. Hopkins (Cambridge University), history; Dr J.R.L. Maddison (Oxford University), history; Professor W.D. Marsden-Wiles (Birkbeck College), psychology; The Rt Hon The Lord Mustill (Lord of Appeal), law; Professor J.L. Nelson (King's College London), history.

Professor B.J. Plimpton (Birkbeck College), French literature; Dr C.A.J. Prendergast (Cambridge University), classical, political studies; Dr C.J. Pyman (Durham University), Russian literature; Professor N.G. Round (Sheffield University), Spanish literature; Professor P. Sims-Williams (University of Wales Aberystwyth), Celtic studies; Professor R. Sugden (University of East Anglia), economics; Professor J. Sutton (LSE), economics; Professor M.W. Thomas (University of Wales Swansea), literature; Dr D.J. Thompson

Professor R. Koselleck (Germany), history; Professor L. Ledderose (Germany), history of art; Professor J. Neubauer (The Netherlands), comparative literature; Professor D.C. North (USA), economics; Professor R. Nozick (USA), philosophy; Professor H. Wolfram (Austria), archaeology.

The following were elected Senior Fellows of the British Academy:

Professor D.K. Fieldhouse (formerly Cambridge University), history; Professor D.N. Mackenzie (formerly University of Zürich), linguistics.

The following were elected Corresponding Fellows of the British Academy:

Professor M. Bietak (Austria), archaeology; Professor R. Charlton (France), bibliography; Dr H.G. Fischer (USA), Egyptology; Professor J.G. Fleming (USA), law; Professor E. Foner (USA), history; Professor J. Gernet (France), sinology; Professor Dr. B. Heine (Germany), linguistics; Professor S. Hoffman (USA), international relations; Professor R. Horton (Nigeria), social anthropology.

Napoleon Surrenders.
(From the *Moniteur*)
PARIS, July 17.

Measures had been taken to prevent the escape of Napoleon Buonaparte; it will be seen by the following extract of a letter from the Maritime Prefect of Rochefort to the Minister of the Marine that the result has been such as there was reason to expect.

Rochefort, July 15, ten o'clock at night. To execute the orders of your Excellency, I embarked in my boat, accompanied by Baron

